

"This legislation will allow these businesses to save a little bit of money on their license, which in turn, could be used to hire additional seasonal help," Rep. Sweeney said. "As the seasonal help at these types of businesses are often high school students, this will help instill a strong work ethic in even more young Ohioans throughout the state."

Rep. Sweeney told Rep. Dick Stein (R-Norwalk) that a food truck entity could apply for the seasonal license if it operated for less than six months out of the year.

Rep. Brinkman said he liked the idea of a seasonal operating license and wondered if it could apply to all types of seasonal businesses including entities like golf courses and hockey rinks.

The sponsor replied that the mentioned entities do not need to apply for a yearly license, but that he is open to the committee's feedback and suggestions.

Rep. Sweeney told Rep. Thomas West (D-Canton) that if a golf course has a seasonal food business, then that food business could apply for a seasonal permit.

Rep. Steven Arndt (R-Port Clinton) asked if the sponsor had considered the impacts on a county with a high density of seasonal workers. Rep. Sweeney replied that he had not but would work closely with the committee and representatives from those areas to address that issue.

Rep. Lepore-Hagan inquired how the funds would be supplemented with some revenue streams being cut in half. Rep. Sweeney replied that though the revenue stream would be eliminated, the change would have a minimal impact on the general fund of most counties to the great benefit of small, seasonal businesses.

**Subscriber's Note:** Full testimonies can be found on the committee website under Jan. 23.

## **Government Accountability & Oversight**

**HJR 4** **UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (Schuring, K.)** Proposing to enact Section 2t of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to allow the General Assembly to provide by law for the issuance of bonds to pay unemployment compensation benefits when the fund created for that purpose is or will be depleted or to repay outstanding advances made by the federal government to the unemployment compensation program. **(CONTINUED (No testimony); 9th Hearing-All testimony)**

**HB 382** **UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (Schuring, K.)** To modify terms describing payments made under the Unemployment Compensation Law, to increase the amount of wages subject to unemployment compensation premiums, to require qualifying employees to make payments to the Unemployment Compensation Insurance Fund, to allow the Director of Job and Family Services to adjust maximum weekly benefit amounts, to reduce the maximum number of benefit weeks, and to make other changes to the Unemployment Compensation Law. **(CONTINUED (No testimony); 9th Hearing-All testimony)**

**HB 410** **TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS (Seitz, B., Butler, J.)** To grant municipal and county courts original and exclusive jurisdiction over any civil action concerning a traffic law violation, to specify that the court require an advance

deposit for the filing of specified civil actions by the local authority bringing the civil action, and to modify the reporting requirements and LGF withholding that apply to subdivisions that operate traffic law photo-monitoring devices.  
(CONTINUED; 3rd Hearing-All testimony)

Traffic safety activist Sharon Montgomery raised questions about the use of traffic cameras in interested party testimony.

One problem with red-light cameras is how they enforce legal right turns at red lights, she said. One solution is to eliminate the option at intersections with cameras.

The bill could solve procedural issues regarding traffic cameras by ensuring they go through the court system, she said.

Ms. Montgomery also raised questions about the revenue motive behind traffic cameras. She asked if the increased safety provided by the cameras balanced the revenue generated by them.

"What evidence is there that municipalities have installed cameras for revenue only?" she asked. "How do we determine motive? Why is it not okay to make money while also doing something good?"

Ms. Montgomery also cited evidence that red-light cameras reduce T-bone crashes but increase rear-end crashes, and said roundabouts have also been implemented to the same effect.

She suggested the legislature work to ensure cameras don't penalize legal actions and fix procedures for dealing with tickets, but that cities not be penalized for efforts to improve safety and generate revenue.

"Revenue challenges already exist for many, if not most, local governments," she said. "They have been asked to 'do more with less' and not to make up already existing reductions in state funding by increasing local taxes."

**Rep. Bill Seitz** (R-Cincinnati) asked Ms. Montgomery if municipalities were using revenue from traffic cameras on safety issues.

Ms. Montgomery said she was aware that the bill would require money to be spent on safety. Local governments, compared to the state, are often best positioned to ensure money is used effectively, she said.

Kent Scarrett, executive director of the Ohio Municipal League, wrote in opposition to the bill, saying it would create unnecessary burdens for municipalities in enforcing local safety regulations.

"The bill strips cities and villages of their right to use administrative hearings for civil citation issuance via traffic camera, which is an effective and financially-responsible means of providing a hearing process - particularly for Ohio's small villages, which are often understaffed and financially strained," he wrote.

The bill also re-litigates an issue already decided by the Ohio Supreme Court, Mr. Scarrett said.

A major concern he cited was that it would require municipalities to file an annual report with the tax commissioner and the municipality's local government fund disbursement would be reduced accordingly.

"Despite the Constitutional right municipalities have to operate traffic cameras, this bill seeks to punish those municipalities who use that right by further depleting the revenues they need to ensure safety and provide local services," he said.

**HB 430** **ENERGY TAX EXEMPTION** (Schaffer, T.) To expand the scope of a sales and use tax exemption for certain kinds of property used in the production of oil and gas. (**CONTINUED (No testimony)**; 3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

**HB 451** **PUBLIC RECORDS** (Retherford, W.) To exclude from the definition of public record under the Public Records Law any depiction by photograph, film, videotape, or digital, visual, or printed material of victims of crime under specified circumstances dealing with the victims' bodily privacy. (**CONTINUED**; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Sponsor **Rep. Wes Retherford** (R-Hamilton) said the bill is designed to protect victims in sexually oriented crimes, such as voyeurism, from having images submitted as evidence in a court case released as a public record.

"Ohio is a very open and transparent state and we have some of the most transparent public records laws in the country," he said. "Government transparency is key to an effective republic. However, ascertaining these photos, videos, images, etc. would have no effect on ensuring public protection through open records laws, instead would just lead to the potential of having an already violated individual become victimized again, when they should be focused on rebuilding in the aftermath."

The bill came from a conversation with police in Hamilton, who raised concerns that they would have to release compromising images if such records were requested.

"While this has not been, to the best of my knowledge, an issue yet, I believe that the proper thing for the General Assembly to do is to take a proactive approach to this issue," Rep. Retherford said. "Why should we wait for this to happen before we respond?"

**HB 462** **HOSPITAL CLOSINGS** (Schuring, K., West, T.) To require that a for-profit hospital and its affiliated health care facilities in certain counties follow specified procedures before ceasing operations or closing, and to declare an emergency. (**CONTINUED (No testimony)**; 2nd Hearing-All testimony)

**Small Cell Wireless:** Sponsor **Rep. Sarah LaTourette** (R-Chagrin Falls) testified in an informal hearing on a bill (**HB 478**) introduced Tuesday that deals with small cell wireless technology.

The technology - low-powered antennas attached to streetlights and poles that help upgrade wireless networks - was the subject of controversy when lawmakers included language in a bill last session (SB331, 131<sup>st</sup> General Assembly) allowing communication companies to install the antennas in municipal rights-of-way.

Municipalities filed lawsuits against the provision and courts found the law violated the Ohio Constitution's single subject rule. (See **Gongwer Ohio Report, March 31, 2017**)

"Rather than merely passing the same language as a standalone bill, we asked the wireless industry and the municipalities to see if they could resolve their differences, so we can pass a

law that will remove the uncertainty caused by the litigation and spur the investment and innovation as was originally intended," Rep. LaTourette said.

The bill creates uniform fees - a \$250 application fee for request and \$200 annual charge to attach to a municipally owned or controlled pole - and a process for obtaining permits. It also lays out approaches for municipalities to protect the aesthetic character of the right-of-way.

**(LSC analysis)**

Rep. LaTourette, who is sponsoring the bill alongside **Rep. Ryan Smith** (R-Bidwell), said the language stems from negotiations over the past three months with municipal officials, city engineers and representatives of the wireless industry.

"This was truly a collaborative effort and the participants should be commended for not only their hard work but also their willingness to negotiate a solution," she said. "The bill before you balances the industry's need to deploy small cells in a timely manner with municipalities' legitimate interest in protecting the aesthetic character of the public way."

**Criminal Justice**

**HB 349** **POLICE ANIMALS (LaTourette, S.)** To increase the penalty for assaulting a police dog or horse and to include search and rescue dogs and horses in the prohibition against assaulting or harassing a police animal. **(CONTINUED-SUBSTITUTE; 2nd Hearing-Proponent-Possible substitute)**

Before hearing testimony, the panel accepted a **substitute bill** offered by Rep. Jeff Rezabek (R-Clayton) to restore existing penalties for assault on a police animal and to set the same penalties for assault on search and rescue animals. **(Comp doc)**

In proponent testimony, Dr. Robert Davis said search and rescue dogs and horses oftentimes encounter the same types of interference as experienced by police dogs and horses.

"Sometimes SAR teams enter private property either unknowingly or accompanied by law enforcement as part of the investigation," he said. "Although distinguishably marked, SAR animals may be subject to various actions by hostile property owners. It may also be the case that the subject of the search was not initially known to be a criminal actor and, when the SAR dog or horse makes contact with the subject, there is potential for harm."

Alice Ault of Miami Valley Mounted Search and Rescue said in proponent testimony that attacks on SAR animals have a high probability of resulting in serious injuries to humans.

"Injury occurs to the equestrian as the result of the equine falling onto the equestrian after it has been violently attacked," she said "This is one of the reasons horsemanship has been determined to be the most dangerous sport in the sports world. Some SAR equine can weigh more than twelve hundred pounds. Because of this, an equine falling onto a rider, as the result of a violent attack, can result in a multitude of traumatic injuries; the most serious, being paralysis or death."

Janelle Hideg of the Midwest K9 Search Unit also provided proponent testimony.

The panel also received written proponent testimony from Jerry Whaley of the Buckeye Emergency Response Training School.

**HB 405** **COUNTERFEITING (Perales, R.)** To create the offense of counterfeiting and to include counterfeiting within the definition of "corrupt activity" under the

Corrupt Activities Law. (**REPORTED-AMENDED (No testimony)**; 3rd Hearing-Possible amendments & vote)

The bill was amended by Rep. Rezabek to clarify that someone in possession of five or more access devices faces up to a third-degree felony charge.

**HB 409** **VETERAN TREATMENT (Butler, J., Perales, R.)** To permit courts to create veterans treatment courts and to allow courts to divert certain criminal defendants to participate in veterans treatment court. (**CONTINUED**; 2nd Hearing-Proponent)

Montgomery County Common Pleas Court Judge Dennis Adkins said the need for the legislation has drastically increased since Sept. 11, 2001.

During the War on Terror, he said, some veterans have been deployed overseas as many as nine times.

"Some are changed more than others. Some suffer from serious problems," Judge Adkins said.

Judge Adkins created a veterans' treatment court in 2013. He said it has proven to be successful with a lower recidivism rate than other specialized dockets.

"The numbers speak for themselves. We have been very successful," he said.

**HB 439** **BAIL DETERMINATIONS (Dever, J., Ginter, T.)** To require courts to use the results of a validated risk assessment tool in bail determinations; to allow nonmonetary bail to be set; to require courts to collect certain data on bail, pretrial release, and sentencing; and to require the state Criminal Sentencing Commission to create a list of validated risk assessment tools and monitor the policies and procedures of courts in setting bail and utilizing pretrial supervision services. (**CONTINUED (See separate story)**; 2nd Hearing-Proponent & interested party)

**HB 455** **DRUG TRAFFICKING (Wiggam, S.)** To provide that in determining the amount of cocaine for trafficking offenses, it also includes a compound, mixture, preparation, or substance containing cocaine, to increase penalties for certain drug trafficking offenses, and to name this act the Drug Trafficking Deterrence Act. (**CONTINUED**; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Under the measure, individuals charged with trafficking heroin, fentanyl, cocaine or other Scheduled I or II drugs would be charged with at least a third-degree felony that includes mandatory prison time.

"No longer will drug dealers be able to operate in this state with little fear of the law, and Ohio will draw a clear distinction in criminal penalties between trafficking and simply using illegal drugs," **Rep. Scott Wiggam** (R-Wooster) said in sponsor testimony.

Rep. Wiggam said that since 2012, Ohio has reduced the incarceration of drug traffickers by 4%, while at the same time, unintentional overdose deaths have increased by 212%.

"We are in a battle for the future of Ohio," he said. "Without deterring drugs from entering and being produced in the state, we are failing those who are currently addicted, and we are jeopardizing our state's future."

Rep. Rezabek questioned the impact the bill would have on the state's already overcrowded prison system, adding he has heard the figure could be as many as 8,000 beds - the equivalent of three maximum security prisons.

Rep. Wiggam disputed the figure, saying the deterrence impact could lead to a much smaller impact.

Rep. Rezabek also questioned whether the bill addresses the definition of trafficking, noting that some users carry scales to ensure that they are not being ripped off when purchasing drugs.

Rep. Wiggam said the bill currently does not address that issue, but he would be open to looking further into the matter.

**HB 457** **DRUG TREATMENT (Antani, N.)** To require that an offender serving a community control sanction or a parolee who fails a drug test for heroin, fentanyl, or carfentanil be held in jail or admitted to a residential treatment program for up to 30 days. **(CONTINUED; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)**

Rep. Niraj Antani (R-Miamisburg) said the legislation was spurred by Scottie Childers, who failed a drug test during a probation check-in and died of an overdose four hours later.

"Scottie's mother, Linda Chambers, was shocked that her son was able to walk out after testing positive. In this case, had Scottie been sent to jail, it would have saved his life," he said in sponsor testimony. "This bill will help protect and save the lives of individuals afflicted with substance abuse."

The bill would require individuals subject to community control or parole sanctions to be immediately sent to jail or a treatment facility if they test positive for heroin, fentanyl or carfentanil.

"I completely agree that those struggling with substance abuse should be treated as addicts who need treatment, and not as criminals. However, in current reality, we simply do not have enough residential treatment facilities for those who need it," he said.

"While we in the General Assembly must address that issue, we also must face where we are today in Ohio and the challenges that we are up against. While we are working on getting more treatment facilities, there has to be somewhere for individuals afflicted with substance abuse to go, and jail is the safest place for them."

**Rep. John Rogers** (D-Mentor-on-the-Lake) questioned why cocaine is not included in the bill.

Rep. Antani said he was trying to narrowly tailor the bill to lessen the impact on county jails. He added that the original charge has to have involved one of the drugs named in the bill.

**HB 461** **HUMAN TRAFFICKING (Fedor, T., Galonski, T.)** To require a juvenile court to hold a delinquency complaint in abeyance if the court has reason to believe that the act charged might be prostitution related or that the child might be a victim of human trafficking and to provide that the same elements for the offense of trafficking in persons that apply to a victim under the age of sixteen also apply to a victim who is age sixteen or seventeen. **(SCHEDULED BUT NOT HEARD; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)**

The bill was pulled from the agenda at the sponsor's request.

**Subscriber's Note:** For full written testimony, see the [committee's website](#) under Jan. 23.  
**Education & Career Readiness**

**HB 224** **SCHOOL FOODS (Ingram, C.)** To permit districts and schools to re-serve time- and temperature-controlled food items to students if items are unused and returned unopened, undamaged, and in the original packaging.  
(CONTINUED; 2nd Hearing-Proponent & Interested party)

Rachel Tilford, food service director of Little Miami Schools and legislative chairperson for the School Nutrition Association of Ohio, said allowing food-sharing tables can benefit students who are food insecure.

However, the Department of Health currently requires any food remaining on sharing tables at the end of the day to be discarded, even if proper procedures are in place to safely store the food and keep it at proper temperatures.

Having to throw that food away results in about \$3,000 of waste annually in her district of 5,000 students alone, Ms. Tilford said.

"It is difficult to throw perfect good food in a garbage can. Try opening your refrigerator and tossing several dollars' worth of food into the trash," she said. "Staff have expressed concern that if people in our conservative community ever witnesses such waste that our department would be viewed negatively for wasting taxpayers' money and probably wind up as a scandalous media story."

She told Rep. John Patterson (D-Jefferson) that many schools face shortfalls in their food service budgets and use money from the general fund used for educational purposes to provide lunches.

While schools lose lunch profits on calamity days, they typically don't lose product because district food service workers can go to schools and freeze any items that won't keep while school is called off, Ms. Tilford said in response to a question from **Rep. Dan Ramos** (D-Lorain).

**Rep. Theresa Gavarone** (R-Bowling Green) questioned how schools keep cold items such as milk and yogurt at a safe temperature after they've been served. The witness said students typically don't have the items on their lunch trays for more than 15 minutes and then they're placed in insulated or temperature controlled storage that's monitored by a thermometer.

Jessica Shelly, food service director for Cincinnati Public Schools, also submitted written testimony in support of the bill. She said the school throws out an estimated \$500,000 in products each year that are paid for by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

**HB 438** **ESC BOARDS (Hambley, S., Kick, D.)** To permit the addition of appointed members to educational service center boards and to permit a local school district to sever its territory from one educational service center and annex that territory to an adjacent service center under specified conditions.  
(CONTINUED; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Joint sponsor, **Rep. Steve Hambley** (R-Brunswick) said the bill aims to "increase member schools' participation in ESC governance and return choice to school districts whose hands were tied under previous law changes.

The measure allows the governing board of any single county ESC to add appointed members who represent client school districts of the service center that are not otherwise represented on the board, he said. Multi-county ESCs already have this ability. It also permits a local school district to sever its territory from one ESC and annex that territory to an adjacent ESC under certain conditions, joint sponsor **Rep. Darrell Kick** (R-Loudonville) said.

"Initial indications are that the only affected school districts would be Black River Local School District, and the five school districts in Sandusky County," he said, noting that the provision is permissive.

Responding to questions from the committee, Rep. Hambley said the Ohio Educational Service Center Association is supportive of the bill, which wouldn't allow appointed members to outnumber elected officials on boards.

Currently in the Black River Local School District, residents elect board members to an ESC they don't receive services from, which is what the bill is attempting to remedy, he said.

**HB 442** **SCHOOL ATHLETICS (Antani, N.)** To authorize any student from a country or province outside the United States who attends an elementary or secondary school in Ohio and holds an F-1 visa to participate in interscholastic athletics at that school on the same basis as Ohio residents.  
(CONTINUED; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Students who come to America on F-1 visas don't get a complete high school experience because they're currently not allowed to play sports, sponsoring Rep. Niraj Antani (R-Miamisburg) said.

"The Ohio High School Athletic Association and its members - around 85% of which are public high schools, paid for by taxpayers - arbitrarily decided several years ago that some international students, like exchange students who are here for a year on a J-1 visa, may play sports, but others, who may be here for four years on an F-1 visa, may not participate unless they meet specific criteria that are not applicable to the vast majority of students who receive an F-1 visa," he said.

He pointed to a 2015 comment from the OHSSA commissioner, who said that sports teach students life lessons, such as teamwork and commitment.

"Why would we want to deny a segment of students attending high school in Ohio from having these valuable experiences, just because of where they were born and the type of visa they have to legally attend school here?" Rep. Antani asked. "It is not something that our state government should let happen, especially when such rules are made by our public schools."

Rep. Ramos and Rep. Patterson raised concerns about recruiting athletes if the bill were to be approved.

"There has been concern that it's possible that students like this might congregate, some might use the term recruitment, in some particular schools and thus instead of a level playing field...it makes it harder for schools to compete," Rep. Patterson said.

Rep. Antani said it doesn't seem likely that schools would attempt to recruit students and there are OSHAA penalties in place for those that are caught doing so.



He suggested that private schools would only accept individuals who meet certain academic standards, which would make recruiting even more difficult.

By all accounts, students with J-1 visas, who are typically short-term foreign exchange students, aren't currently recruited despite being permitted to play OSHAA sports, Rep. Antani added.

**HCR 11** **EDUCATION PLAN (Gavarone, T.)** To approve Ohio's state education plan for implementation of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act. (CONTINUED (No testimony); 2nd Hearing-All testimony)

#### **Public Utilities**

**HB 143** **ELECTRIC COMPANIES (Sprague, R.)** To clarify the definition of "electric distribution company" for kilowatt-hour tax purposes. (CONTINUED; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

**Rep. Robert Sprague's** bill would preserve the previously-granted exemption of self-generators from the kilowatt-hour tax when it comes to power distribution, according to the sponsor.

The bill, he argued, is necessary to ensure exemptions spelled out in a 2001 law are properly applied by the Ohio Department of Taxation. That bill (SB3, 123<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly) exempted self-generators from the tax but the sponsor said that in recent years, ODT has begun levying the tax on some entities that should qualify as self-generators.

"This specific issue has to do with the interpretation of language regarding the tax on the distribution of energy over the grid," he said. "Since 'self-generator' is not specifically defined under Ohio's tax code, the Ohio Department of Taxation is treating certain entities that fit under the Ohio Revised Code Section 4928.01 definition of a 'self-generator' as electric distribution companies."

A substitute version of the bill is forthcoming after continued talks with ODT and other parties, Rep. Sprague (R-Findlay) said.

"My hope is we will soon reach a consensus on the language issues, but, due to certain views on the original principle of the exemption, there will still be opposition," Rep. Sprague said. "My intention was and is not to address the principle of whether the exemption is right or wrong; it is to clarify the intentions of Senate Bill 3 from the 123<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly."

The sponsor told **Rep. Rick Perales** (R-Beavercreek) that "a lot of resistance" has been aired in interested party meetings over whether justification for the exemptions exists. "We're really not going to address that particular issue of the exemption," he said of the philosophical debate.

**HB 247** **UTILITY LAW (Romanchuk, M.)** To require refunds to utility customers who have been improperly charged, to eliminate electric security plans and require all electric standard service offers to be delivered through market-rate offers, and to strengthen corporate separation requirements. (CONTINUED; 6th Hearing-All testimony)

Proponents continued pressing House lawmakers to support a bill to ban electric security plans over the objections of utility companies.

Tuesday marked the sixth hearing of the bill from **Rep. Mark Romanchuk** (R-Mansfield) which has been praised by consumer advocates as a way to bypass above-market riders levied on customers. But utilities remain staunchly opposed, arguing previously that MROs are less flexible and reduce competition. (See **Gongwer Ohio Report, December 12, 2017**) Ohio Consumers' Counsel Bruce Weston reiterated his support for the bill, echoing remarks he's made before in front of the committee. (See **Gongwer Ohio Report, November 14, 2017**)

"In short, you would be solving a lot of problems and doing a lot of good for Ohioans by reforming the 2008 law to eliminate electric security plans," Mr. Weston argued. Ned Hill, an Ohio State University economist, agreed, criticizing the deal-making process in which utilities secure interested party support for ESPs through settlement agreement "carve outs."

"In a market-based economy markets should operate for the benefit of consumers, not for the benefit of companies," he said. "House Bill 247 will ensure that this remains true for electricity customers, and not just the few that are favored in special interest carve-outs in ESPs."

Barry Matchett, director of external affairs for NRG Energy, also voiced support for the bill, which he said contains "worthy policy goals" for Ohio consumers and large energy users. "Let me also be clear that this is a compromise bill from the start," Mr. Matchett said. "I will admit there were many proposed items that my own company would have liked to have seen included in this legislation. But what you have before you is a solid base of reforms to protect and preserve the robust and developing energy market here in Ohio primarily to the benefit of customers."

Micah Derry, state director for Americans for Prosperity-Ohio, submitted written interested party testimony stating the legislation is a "natural step on the heels" of a House-passed bill to rework the renewable energy standards (**HB 114**).

"As it relates to HB247, we think the steps taken in the legislation to eliminate the Electricity Security Plans (ESP) are an encouraging provision, as this would largely preclude the ability of utilities to charge above-market rates to consumers," Mr. Derry wrote.

"It would also open the way for more pro-consumer competitive outcomes through the default adoption of the Market-Rate Offer (MRO) ratemaking mechanism, which is intrinsically competitive since it sets rates through a competitive bidding process," he continued.

**HB 402**      **TELEPHONE REGULATION (Hill, B.)** To revise state regulation of telephone companies. (**CONTINUED (See separate story)**; 2nd Hearing-Proponent)

**Subscribers Note:** For full testimony see the **committee's website** under Jan. 23.

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## Senate Activity for Tuesday, January 23, 2018

### COMMITTEE HEARINGS

#### Health, Human Services & Medicaid

**HB 145** **CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT** (Huffman, S., Sprague, R.) To provide for the establishment of a confidential program for the treatment of certain impaired practitioners and to declare an emergency. (**REPORTED-AMENDED**; 4th Hearing -All testimony-Possible vote)

The committee voted unanimously to report the bill after accepting two amendments. The first amendment, offered by Chairman Sen. Dave Burke (R-Marysville), deals with the potential of a move of Medicaid long-term services and supports into managed care. That proposal was hotly debated in the budget, with the General Assembly putting a limit on the administration's plan to implement the move, and Gov. John Kasich vetoing the language. The issue was resolved when the Kasich administration announced it would not begin the move.

The amendment states that the General Assembly would have the final say in whether Medicaid can move long-term care services to managed care, said Sen. Scott Oelslager (R-N. Canton).

The other amendment includes language considered but tabled in December dealing with the move of the regulation of dieticians and respiratory care providers to the State Medical Board. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, December 5, 2017)

**HB 286** **PALLIATIVE CARE** (LaTourette, S.) To create the Palliative Care and Quality of Life Interdisciplinary Council, to establish the Palliative Care Consumer and Professional Information and Education Program, and to require health care facilities to identify patients and residents who could benefit from palliative care. (**CONTINUED-AMENDED**; 1st Hearing-Sponsor & Possible amendments)

The committee accepted an amendment offered by Sen. Burke that adds exercise physiologists to list of experts that can be appointed to the interdisciplinary council, clarifies what non-hospice palliative care candidates may receive the service from a hospice facility, and makes technical corrections.

Sponsor Rep. Sarah LaTourette (R-Chagrin Falls) said the bill would create an interdisciplinary council and education program to raise awareness about palliative care. Palliative care, in which a patient's quality of life is improved by reducing symptoms, pain and stress by giving them more control, is appropriate at any point in an illness, not just at the end of life.

"Palliative care is appropriate at any age and at any stage of a serious illness, but when palliative care is mentioned many people do instantly think of 'hospice care' and the

conversation stops," she said. "Because of this, palliative care is drastically and disappointingly underutilized in our state."

The council would include members from fields that work closely with palliative care recipients, and would serve as an advisory council to the Department of Health," Rep. LaTourette said. "The bill also creates an education program to inform patients and medical providers about the care."

**Sen. Bill Beagle** (R-Tipp City) asked what the council's main objective would be.

The sponsor said education is important, because if people don't know about palliative care, they won't take advantage of it. The council would also be required to submit annual reports to the General Assembly.

**HB 50** **EBT CARDS** (**Schaffer, T.**) To establish requirements for electronic benefit transfer cards issued under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. (CONTINUED (See separate story); 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

**SB 110** **HEALTH CARE IDENTIFICATION** (**Tavares, C.**) To require a health care professional to wear identification when providing care or treatment in the presence of a patient. (CONTINUED; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

The bill would require certain health care professionals to wear an identification card, badge or similar device, including a photograph, when providing care, sponsor **Sen. Charleta B. Tavares** (D-Columbus) said. The badge would be required to include the person's licensure status and staff position.

"Without this legislation it is all too easy for patients to confuse who is and is not a licensed health care professional," she said. "It is also very easy for unlicensed or unqualified individuals to administer care to unaware patients. The misrepresentation of the level of training held by health care professionals is dangerous and can result in the loss of a loved one's life."

The sponsor detailed the story of a patient in South Carolina who ultimately died from complications from a pain reliever after surgery and whose mother repeatedly asked for a veteran physician at the hospital to examine him, but was only met by residents.

"It is vital that health care professionals are required to wear identification of who they are and what their level of training is in order to insure the utmost level of transparency between patients and health professionals," she said.

**Sen. Peggy Lehner** (R-Kettering) asked the sponsor if she has checked with hospitals to see if it is already in practice.

Sen. Tavares said she didn't know how common of a practice it is, particularly in smaller hospital systems and practices.

**Sen. Edna Brown** (D-Toledo) said many people wear badges backwards, and suggested that the requirement be that the name and status be visible.

That's the intent of the bill, Sen. Tavares said, but it could be made explicit in the bill.

**SB 192** **AWARENESS WEEK** (**Tavares, C.**) To designate the last week of September as "Diaper Need Awareness Week." (CONTINUED; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Sen. Tavares said her bill would designate the final week of September as Diaper Need Awareness Week, focusing on the need by low-income families of diapers and to rally support for diaper bank programs.

"Children in low-income families are at the greatest risk of suffering the effects of diaper need because many families cannot afford diapers," she said. "Current public support programs help some, but young children have additional needs necessary to build a strong foundation for healthy growth. More awareness needs to be brought to such a critical but oftentimes overlooked necessity for Ohio families."

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families is the only federal program that can cover diapers, and families are often forced to choose between diapers and other services TANF covers, such as heat, electric, rent, clothing and transportation, Sen. Tavares said.

"This bill is simply meant to bring attention to this important need and to encourage those of us with a little extra to donate to the Diaper Banks in our communities or to start them," she said.

### **Insurance & Financial Institutions**

**HB 362**      **HPRS RETIREMENT (Carfagna, R., Ramos, D.)** To revise the law governing the State Highway Patrol Retirement System. (**CONTINUED**; 2nd Hearing-All testimony)

Mark Atkeson, executive director of the Ohio Highway Patrol Retirement System, said the bill would help the pension fund ensure continued solvency.

The bill would return the minimum retirement age to 52 for new hires after Jan. 1, 2020, calculate pension benefits for off-duty disabilities based on a minimum 12-year service benefit instead of 20 years, and eliminate the automatic 50% unfunded survivor benefit, creating a set amount of \$900, increasing annually as the board determines.

The measure would also provide no survivor benefits for those who marry after retirement.

"These changes reduce the amortization period of our unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities by several years, and when these changes are fully realized, they will have a compounding cumulative effect on reducing our unfunded liabilities," he said. "In addition, these are considered best practices and are consistent with other similar systems."

Robert Booker, president of the Ohio Highway Patrol Retirees' Association, said the changes are needed to ensure the system's long-term health.

"Like with other pension systems, our system continues to face actuarial assumption changes that have not been seen before," he said. "Probably, the most significant change was the reduction of the investment assumed rate of return. These assumption changes increase the unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities of a pension system. The legislative changes the HPRS board has approved are necessary and will decrease the amortization period of the system's unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities by several years, thus improving its solvency."

In written testimony, HPRS Board member Matt Them voiced support for the proposal.

"I realize no one wants to see any change in benefits, myself included, but this legislation is in the best interest of the retirement system and its long-term solvency," he said. "Thus, in the long-run, a solvent and well-funded system will benefit all of us individually."

Chairman Sen. Jay Hottinger (R-Newark) said he hopes to vote the bill out of the committee next week.

**SB 227** **HEALTH PLAN CLAIMS (Huffman, M.)** To require health plan issuers to release certain claim information to group plan policyholders. (**CONTINUED (See separate story)**; 3rd Hearing-Opponent & interested party)

**Government Oversight & Reform**

**SJR 5** **CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING (Huffman, M.)** To establish a process for congressional redistricting. (**CONTINUED (See separate story)**; 1st Hearing-All testimony)

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## Daily Activity Planner for Wednesday, January 24

### Legislative Committees

House Health (Committee Record) (Chr. Huffman, S., 466-8114), Rm. 121, 9 a.m.

**HB 191** **NURSE ANESTHETISTS** (Gonzales, A.) Regarding the practice of certified registered nurse anesthetists. (3rd Hearing-Proponent)

**Senate Ways & Means** (Committee Record) (Chr. Eklund, J., 644-7718), South Hearing Rm., 9 a.m.

**HB 24** **VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS** (Ginter, T.) To modify the existing tax exemption for veterans organizations' property to include property of certain veterans organizations exempt from federal taxation under section 501C(4) of the Internal Revenue Code and to exclude property that is not used primarily for meetings, administration, and the provision of programs and services to past and present members of the United States armed forces. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

**HB 292** **OHIO RESIDENCY** (Scherer, G.) To modify the test for determining an individual's state of residence for income tax purposes. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

**SB 226** **TAX HOLIDAY** (Bacon, K.) To provide for a permanent three-day sales tax "holiday" each August during which sales of clothing and school supplies are exempt from sales and use tax. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)

**Senate Government Oversight & Reform** (Committee Record) (Chr. Coley, B., 466-8072), Finance Hearing Rm., 9:45 a.m.

**SJR 5** **CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING** (Huffman, M.) To establish a process for congressional redistricting. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

**House Insurance** (Committee Record) (Chr. Brinkman, T., 644-6886), Rm. 116, 10 a.m.

- **Presentation by Ohio State Highway Patrol Lt. Steven M. Click on the Ohio ASSIST (Aiding Safety Services with Incident Survival Techniques) Program**

**HB 459** **WORKERS' COMPENSATION** (Henne, M.) To allow groups of employers to be granted status as a self-insuring employer for purposes of the Workers' Compensation Law. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

**HB 416** **HEALTH SERVICE PRICES** (Huffman, S.) Regarding the provision of cost estimates for scheduled health care services and health care services requiring insurer preauthorization. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

**House Transportation & Public Safety** (Committee Record) (Chr. Green, D., 644-6034), Rm. 017, 10 a.m.



- HB 293** **DRIVER'S LICENSES** (Scherer, G., Sheehy, M.) To require a person to hold a temporary instruction permit for one year before obtaining a probationary driver's license and to alter the time periods during which the holder of a temporary instruction permit or probationary driver's license is prohibited from operating a motor vehicle without being accompanied by a parent or guardian. (3rd Hearing-Proponent & opponent-Possible substitute)
- HB 350** **ROAD NAMING** (Craig, H.) To designate a portion of State Route 317 in Franklin County as the "Patrolman Dane L. Rowe Memorial Highway." (1st Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)
- HB 421** **VEHICLE TITLES** (Patterson, J., Becker, J.) To provide that when a certificate of title is issued for a motor vehicle, the owner may request that the certificate indicate that the motor vehicle is a replica vehicle. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HCR 20** **VEHICLE CRASHES** (Schaffer, T.) To urge Congress to encourage the Administrator of the FMCSA to change the crash indicator BASIC regulation standards to consider only crashes in which the driver was at fault for the crash. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 400** **BRIDGE NAMING** (Holmes, G.) To designate the bridge spanning Squaw Creek, that is part of State Route 169 in Trumbull County, as the "World War I and World War II Veterans Memorial Bridge." (1st Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)
- HB 401** **BRIDGE NAMING** (Holmes, G.) To designate the bridge spanning Squaw Creek, that is part of United States Route 422 in Girard, as the "Purple Heart Veterans Memorial Bridge." (1st Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)
- HB 388** **LICENSE PLATE** (Sykes, E., Roegner, K.) To create the "Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens" license plate. (1st Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)
- House Higher Education & Workforce Development** (Committee Record) (Chr. Duffey, M., 644-6030), Rm. 115, 11 a.m.
- HB 58** **CURSIVE HANDWRITING** (Brenner, A., Slaby, M.) To require instruction in cursive handwriting. (6th Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 449** **SPONSOR RATINGS** (Rogers, J., Patterson, J.) To require the Department of Education to attribute any community school sponsor ratings an entity received during its relationship with a state university board of trustees to that entity even if it no longer has a relationship with the university. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- Senate Rules & Reference** (Committee Record) (Chr. Obhof, L., 466-7505), Majority Conf. Rm., 11 a.m.
- House Rules & Reference** (Committee Record) (Chr. Rosenberger, C., 466-3506), Rm. 119, 12:15 p.m.
- House Session** (Committee Record) (Chr. Rosenberger, C., 466-3357), House Chamber, 1:30 p.m.
- Senate Session** (Committee Record) (Chr. Obhof, L., 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 1:30 p.m.
- House Civil Justice** (Committee Record) (Chr. Butler, J., 644-6008), Rm. 121, 2:30 p.m.

**HB 407** **ESTATE LAW** (Dever, J., Seitz, B.) To abolish the estate by dower. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

**HB 446** **POWER OF ATTORNEY** (Rogers, J., Seitz, B.) Relative to the acceptance of an acknowledged power of attorney. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

**House Armed Services, Veterans Affairs & Homeland Security** (Committee Record) (**Chr. Johnson, T.**, 466-2124), Rm. 116, 2:30 p.m. or after session

**HR 318** **ARMED FORCES** (Dever, J.) To urge the President and Congress of the United States, and the Secretary of Defense, to authorize the recruitment of individuals with disabilities for service in the Armed Forces of the United States. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

**HB 434** **LICENSE PLATES** (Sweeney, M., Perales, R.) To create the "Army Distinguished Service Cross," the "Navy Cross," the "Air Force Cross," and the "Coast Guard Cross" license plates. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

**House Government Accountability & Oversight** (Committee Record) (**Chr. Blessing, L.**, 466-9091), Rm. 313, 2:30 p.m. or after session

- 2nd Hearing-Proponent testimony on bill from Rep. Schuring on redistricting

**HB 87** **COMMUNITY SCHOOLS** (Roegner, K.) Regarding public moneys returned to the state as a result of a finding for recovery issued pursuant to an audit of a community school. (6th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

**HB 478** **WIRELESS SERVICES** (Smith, R., LaTourette, S.) To modify the law regarding wireless service and the placement of small cell wireless facilities in the public way. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

**HB 382** **UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION** (Schuring, K.) To modify terms describing payments made under the Unemployment Compensation Law, to increase the amount of wages subject to unemployment compensation premiums, to require qualifying employees to make payments to the Unemployment Compensation Insurance Fund, to allow the Director of Job and Family Services to adjust maximum weekly benefit amounts, to reduce the maximum number of benefit weeks, and to make other changes to the Unemployment Compensation Law. (10th Hearing-All testimony)

**HJR 4** **UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION** (Schuring, K.) Proposing to enact Section 2t of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to allow the General Assembly to provide by law for the issuance of bonds to pay unemployment compensation benefits when the fund created for that purpose is or will be depleted or to repay outstanding advances made by the federal government to the unemployment compensation program. (10th Hearing-All testimony)

**HB 462** **HOSPITAL CLOSINGS** (Schuring, K., West, T.) To require that a for-profit hospital and its affiliated health care facilities in certain counties follow specified procedures before ceasing operations or closing, and to declare an emergency. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

- HB 301** **CONSENT DECREES (Butler, J.)** To require the approval of the General Assembly for a state agency to agree to a consent decree or court-approved settlement agreement that would alter or prohibit the enforcement of a law of this state. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- SB 223** **USED TIRES (LaRose, F.)** To prohibit the installation of unsafe used tires on certain motor vehicles. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- SB 127** **WASTE COLLECTION VEHICLES (LaRose, F.)** To require motor vehicle operators to take certain actions upon approaching a stationary waste collection vehicle collecting refuse on a roadside. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- House Community & Family Advancement (Committee Record) (Chr. Ginter, T., 466-8022), Rm. 114, 3 p.m. or after session**
- HB 427** **SUBSTANCE ABUSE (Young, R.)** To require the Department of Health to publish monthly drug overdose death information for each county, to create grant programs to support faith-based substance abuse services, to authorize an income tax deduction for physicians providing such services for free, and to allocate funds and make an appropriation for the grant programs. (1st Hearing-Sponsor-Possible substitute)
- HB 366** **CHILD SUPPORT (Gavarone, T.)** To make changes to the laws governing child support. (5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)
- House Federalism & Interstate Relations (Committee Record) (Chr. Roegner, K., 466-1177), Rm. 115, 3:30 p.m. or after session**
- HB 253** **CONCEALED WEAPONS (Householder, L., Lanese, L.)** To permit law enforcement officers to carry firearms off duty in places otherwise prohibited for concealed handgun licensees. (3rd Hearing-Opponent & interested party)
- House State & Local Government (Committee Record) (Chr. Anielski, M., 644-6041), Rm. 017, 3:30 p.m. or after session**
- HB 415** **ROAD IMPROVEMENTS (Greenspan, D., Ryan, S.)** To allocate one-half of any surplus revenue to a new Local Government Road Improvement Fund, from which money will be distributed directly to local governments to fund road improvements. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible substitute)
- HB 169** **HEALTH INSURANCE (Merrin, D.)** To require, with respect to insurance contracted for or provided by the Department of Administrative Services, an individual who is not covered by a collective bargaining agreement to pay the same percentage of the premium for vision, dental, or life insurance as the individual pays for health insurance. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
- HB 298** **SICK DAYS (Merrin, D.)** To make changes with respect to the number of sick days provided to public employees. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
- HB 314** **SAFETY TAX CREDIT (Schaffer, T.)** To allow an income tax credit for law enforcement officials who purchase safety or protective items to be used in the course of official law enforcement activities. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

- HB 453** **CHARTER HOSPITALS** (Greenspan, D.) To require that all rights and interests in discoveries, inventions, or patents made by employees using charter county hospital facilities are the property of that charter county hospital. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 454** **CEMETERY LOTS** (Patterson, J., Arndt, S.) To require a township to compensate the owner of certain unused cemetery lots and rights which the township reenters after lack of response from the owner. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HR 299** **DRUG USE** (Young, R., Ginter, T.) To recognize the efforts and successes of the faith-based community in supporting and assisting individuals who are suffering from opioid and other drug abuse and addiction. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- SCR 15** **YEAR DESIGNATION** (O'Brien, S., Wilson, S.) To designate 2018 as 'Ohio's Year of the Trails.' (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

### Agency Calendar

Arts Council, 33rd Fl., 30 E. Broad St., Columbus, 10 a.m. (The Finance Committee meets previously at 9:30 a.m. and the Executive Committee meets at noon or immediately following the board meeting.)

Board of Building Appeals, Division of Industrial Compliance, 6606 Tussing Road, Training Room 1, Reynoldsburg, 1:30 p.m.

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 E. Broad St., 11th Fl., Columbus, 1:30 p.m.

### Event Planner

Ohio Oil and Gas Association and Ohio Environmental Council Action Fund news conference call on orphan well legislation, 9:30 a.m.

Managed Long-Term Services and Supports Study Committee, Rm. 1960, 77 S. High St., Columbus, 10 a.m.

Rep. Scott Lipps (R-Franklin) and Rep. Thomas West (D-Canton) and Ohio Pharmacists' Association news conference on prescription drug legislation, Press Briefing Rm., Statehouse, Columbus, 11:30 a.m.

Rep. Ryan Smith (R-Bidwell) & Rep. Dave Greenspan (R-Westlake) fundraiser, Athletic Club, 136 E. Broad St., Columbus, 11:30 a.m., (Chair: \$5,000, Sponsor: \$2,500, Host: \$1,000, Guest: \$500 to Friends of Ryan Smith and Friends of Dave Greenspan RSVP required to Taylor at 740.395.7656 or Taylor@smithforohio.com)

Rep. Janine Boyd (D-Cleveland Hts.) fundraiser, Club 185, 185 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus, 5:30 p.m., (Sponsor \$1,000, Host \$500, Friend \$350 to Friends of Janine Boyd. RSVP with Jenna Gravalis at 551-427-9895 or jgravalis@ohiodems.org)

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## NEWS

Groups rally to fight Ohio senator's rival redistricting plan (Associated Press, 1/24/2018)

Lawyers to Ohio court: Juries, not judges, should impose death sentences (Associated Press, 1/24/2018)

Lawmakers ax money proposed for film campus, Wasson Way in list to GOP leaders (Cincinnati Enquirer, 1/24/2018)

'Right to work' could be on the ballot in Ohio with support from lawmakers (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 1/24/2018)

**Ohio among northern states to lose another U.S. House seat after next census - Out of Line: Impact 2017 and Beyond (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 1/24/2018)**

**Should ECOT founder pay money back faster? State Auditor Dave Yost says yes while school floats new plan (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 1/24/2018)**

**Columbus lawmaker's proposal would allow physician-assisted suicide in Ohio (Columbus Dispatch, 1/24/2018)**

**Democrats tussle over ECOT campaign money, but GOP got far more (Columbus Dispatch, 1/24/2018)**

**Ex-Tiberi aide to join DeWine's staff (Columbus Dispatch, 1/24/2018)**

**Lawmakers take baby steps toward redistricting compromise (Columbus Dispatch, 1/24/2018)**

**Portman says killing NAFTA would be mistake (Columbus Dispatch, 1/24/2018)**

**Right-to-work would help Ohio workers, GOP lawmakers say (Columbus Dispatch, 1/24/2018)**

**'On its last legs': Why election boards are seeking new voting machines (Dayton Daily News, 1/24/2018)**

**Doctor-assisted suicide bill coming to Ohio Statehouse (Dayton Daily News, 1/24/2018)**

**Ohio looking to change bail system, focusing less on money (Dayton Daily News, 1/24/2018)**

**Portman warns Trump: killing NAFTA will kill jobs in Ohio (Dayton Daily News, 1/24/2018)**

**State considers punishing cities that use traffic, red-light cameras (Dayton Daily News, 1/24/2018)**

**Thousands head back to work at Wright-Patt as shutdown ends (Dayton Daily News, 1/24/2018)**

**Lawmakers argue ECOT closing preventable (Toledo Blade, 1/24/2018)**

## **EDITORIALS**

**A fleeting moment of compromise ends the government shutdown despite "No" votes from three Ohio Democrats: editorial (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 1/24/2018)**

**Scientists leading algae fight (Toledo Blade, 1/24/2018)**

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**From:** Erik Hingst

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 24, 2018 2:59 PM

**To:** Rep88

**Subject:** Walmart Paid Leave & Wage Announcement - Ohio

**Attachments:** Ohio - Walmart Raises Wages Gives Bonuses Expands Benefits.pdf

Dear Representative Reineke,

Walmart has announced that it is significantly expanding maternity and parental leave benefits for its Walmart and Sam's Club associates statewide, providing full-time hourly associates in the U.S. with 10 weeks of paid maternity leave and six weeks of paid parental leave, both at 100 percent of their average weekly wage. Walmart also introduced a new adoption benefit, available to all full-time associates, totaling \$5,000 per child for expenses such as adoption agency fees, translation fees and legal or court costs. The changes place Walmart as one of the leading companies in America when it comes to parental leave.

Additionally, associates in Ohio will soon receive pay increases and bonuses totaling \$12.7M. The increased wages and benefits in Ohio are part of Walmart's Jan. 11 announcement that it is raising the starting wage rate for hourly associates across the country to \$11. Walmart also announced it will provide a one-time cash bonus of up to \$1,000 to eligible associates. The combined wage and benefit changes will benefit the company's more than one million U.S. hourly associates.

Attached is a full copy of the press release, detailing the expanded maternity and parental leave benefits as well as pay increases.

Respectfully,

**Erik Hingst**

**Director**

**Walmart Public Affairs & Government Relations – Michigan, Ohio & West Virginia**



Contact:  
Mark Rickel  
[mricket@lesiccamper.com](mailto:mricket@lesiccamper.com)  
614-232-8309

### **Walmart to Raise Wages, Provide One-Time Bonus and Expand Hourly Maternity and Parental Leave for Associates in Ohio**

*More than 1 million associates benefit from combined wage and benefit changes, including more than 30,000 Walmart associates in Ohio*

**COLUMBUS, Ohio – Jan. 22, 2018** – Recently, Walmart announced plans to increase the starting wage rate for all hourly associates in the U.S. to \$11, expand maternity and parental leave benefits and provide a one-time cash bonus for eligible associates of up to \$1,000. The company is also creating a new benefit to assist associates with adoption expenses. The combined wage and benefit changes will benefit the company's more than one million U.S. hourly associates, **including approximately 30,687 Walmart associates in Ohio.**

"We are building on investments we've been making in associates, in their wages and skills development," said Doug McMillon, Walmart president and CEO. "It's our people who make the difference and we appreciate how they work hard to make every day easier for busy families."

Associates will continue to hear more from their managers in the coming days about details. But, broadly, associates in Ohio are receiving the following benefits:

- A one-time bonus benefiting all eligible full and part-time hourly associates in the U.S. The amount of the bonus will be based on length of service, with associates with at least 20 years qualifying for \$1,000. **In Ohio, approximately 30,687 Walmart and Sam's Club associates are expected to be eligible for the one-time cash bonus, which is estimated to total \$12,729,150.**
- An increase in Walmart's starting wage rate to \$11 an hour, effective in the Feb. 17, 2018, pay cycle. The change is in addition to wage increases already planned for many U.S. markets in the coming fiscal year. The increase applies to all hourly associates in the U.S., including stores, Sam's Clubs, eCommerce, logistics and Home Office. Approximately 22,159 Walmart and Sam's Club associates in Ohio are expected to receive a wage increase, which is estimated to total more than \$36.9 million. **Walmart's new average hourly wage for full-time associates in Ohio will be \$13.93.**
- An expanded parental and maternity leave policy, providing full-time hourly associates in the U.S. with **10 weeks of paid maternity leave and six weeks of paid parental leave.** Salaried associates will also receive six weeks of paid parental leave.
- Walmart will provide financial assistance to associates adopting a child. The adoption benefit, available to both full-time hourly and salaried associates, will total \$5,000 per child and may be used for expenses such as adoption agency fees, translation fees and legal or court costs.

"The Ohio Council of Retail Merchants is pleased to see Ohio's largest private job provider reinvesting in our retail workforce," said President and CEO Gordon Gough. "It's proof that good public policy and meaningful tax reform can make a difference in the lives of all Ohioans."

#### **About Walmart**

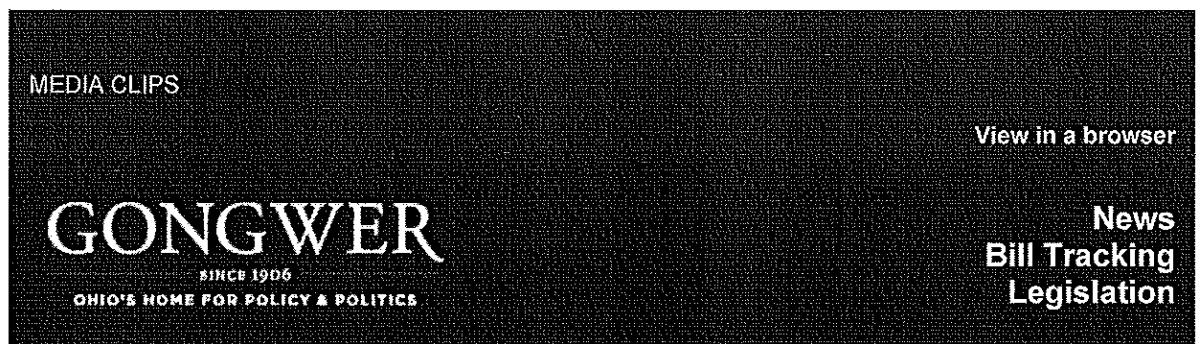
Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. (NYSE: WMT) helps people around the world save money and live better - anytime and anywhere - in retail stores, online, and through their mobile devices. The company's legal name will become Walmart Inc., effective on Feb. 1, 2018, to reflect its growing status as an omni-channel retailer. Each week, over 260 million customers and members visit our more than 11,600 stores under nearly 60 banners in 28 countries and eCommerce websites. With fiscal year 2017 revenue of \$485.9 billion, Walmart employs approximately 2.3 million associates worldwide. Walmart continues to be a leader in sustainability, corporate philanthropy and employment opportunity. Additional information about Walmart can be found by visiting <http://corporate.walmart.com>, on Facebook at <http://facebook.com/walmart> and on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/walmart>.

###

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## NEWS

Ohio Supreme Court sides with FirstEnergy in customer refund ruling  
(Akron Beacon Journal, 1/25/2018)

GOP gov race: No one wants Kasich's endorsement (Cincinnati Enquirer,  
1/25/2018)

= A

In Ohio, lives altered a year into Trump (Cincinnati Enquirer, 1/25/2018)

Ohio PAC supporting Ohio women candidates raises \$750,000 (Cleveland  
Plain Dealer, 1/25/2018)

**Powerful opioids are easily sold through the Internet and shipped in the mail, investigation finds (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 1/25/2018)**

**Talk it out: Should Ohio become a 'right to work' state? (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 1/25/2018)**

**Campaign cash: Who got how much from ECOT (Columbus Dispatch, 1/25/2018)**

**Cordray wants to bring fight for consumers to Ohio (Columbus Dispatch, 1/25/2018)**

**Kasich disputes Taylor's assertion they haven't talked in a year (Columbus Dispatch, 1/25/2018)**

**No redistricting vote without citizens coalition support, Senate president says (Columbus Dispatch, 1/25/2018)**

**Ohio lawmakers going after pharmacy benefit managers (Columbus Dispatch, 1/25/2018)**

**State lawmakers vote to regulate "e-bikes" (Columbus Dispatch, 1/25/2018)**

**Ohio's tobacco prevention efforts get mostly Fs (Dayton Daily News, 1/25/2018)**

**Riding a skateboard while holding a car could become illegal in Ohio (Dayton Daily News, 1/25/2018)**

**State considers punishing cities that use traffic, red-light cameras (Dayton Daily News, 1/25/2018)**

**Tool will allow the public to follow the money in Ohio politics (Dayton Daily News, 1/25/2018)**

**High court: State's FirstEnergy refund order was improper (Toledo Blade, 1/25/2018)**

**Vote delayed on GOP remap plan (Toledo Blade, 1/25/2018)**

## **EDITORIALS**

**Editorial: CHIP breaks free from D.C. gridlock (Canton Repository, 1/25/2018)**

**Editorial: Ohioans want real redistricting reform (Columbus Dispatch, 1/25/2018)**

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**From:** Morning Consult  
**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 8:40 AM  
**To:** Rep88  
**Subject:** Morning Consult Washington: Republicans Distance Themselves From Wynn After He Steps Down as RNC Finance Chairman  
**Attachments:** ATT00001.txt; ATT00002.htm



[The body of the email contains a large, dense block of text that is mostly illegible due to extreme pixelation and low resolution. The text appears to be a long paragraph or a list of items, but the individual words and sentences cannot be discerned.]

By Eli Yokley

## Top Stories

- Republican lawmakers distanced themselves from Steve Wynn following a news report that described allegations of sexual misconduct against the casino mogul. Wynn later stepped down from his post as finance chairman of the Republican National Committee, and Republicans such as House Speaker Paul Ryan (Wis.) said they would redirect his campaign contributions to charities. ([The Wall Street Journal](#))
- Voters most want President Donald Trump to focus on improving the health care system, followed by the economy and creating jobs, when he delivers his first State of the Union address tomorrow night, according to a new poll. Eighty-two percent of registered voters said health care was very important or somewhat important for the president to discuss, up 6 percentage points since a similar survey conducted before former President Barack Obama delivered his final State of the Union address in 2016. ([Morning Consult](#))
- The Trump administration faces a deadline today to begin imposing sanctions on entities doing business with Russia's defense and intelligence sectors, in addition to producing a list of oligarchs with ties to Russian President Vladimir Putin, as required by a bill Trump signed into law in August. The sanctions could be delayed or waived if the administration says Russia has made progress in cutting back its cyber-meddling. ([Politico](#))
- House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) said he does not think "there's a need for legislation right now" to protect Special Counsel Robert Mueller's job, despite a news report that Trump tried to fire him in June. Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.), who has drafted one of two bipartisan bills that would protect Mueller, said he would be "glad to pass it right now" but suggested there was no



need to do so with "no evidence that Mr. Trump wants to fire Mr. Mueller now." (The New York Times)

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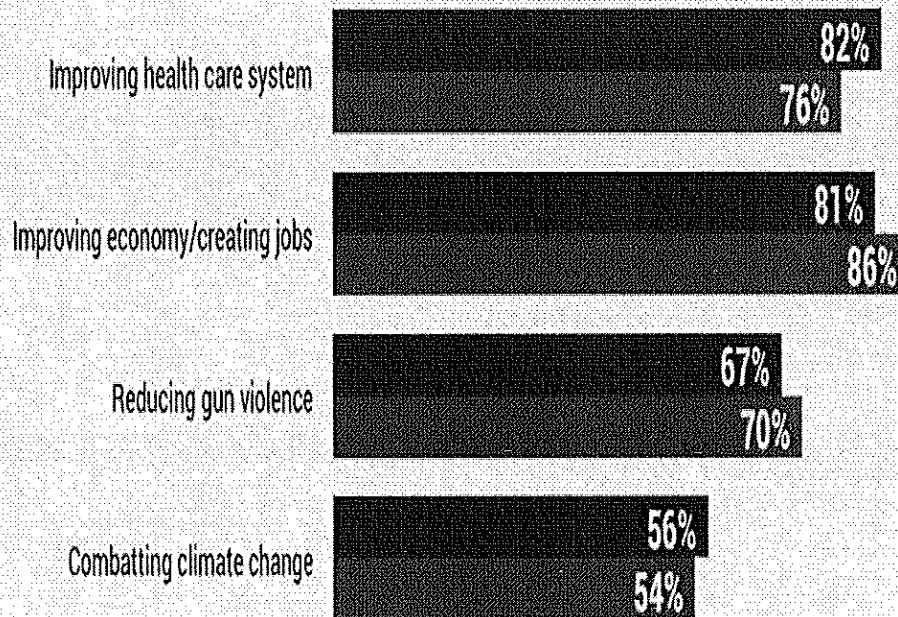
## Chart Review

### What Voters Want to Hear from Trump's State of the Union Morning Consult

# Health Care Rises On Voter Priority List Since 2016 Address

Voters' perceived importance of select issues before SOTU addresses in 2016 vs. 2018

■ Ahead of Trump's Speech in 2018   ■ Ahead of Obama's Speech in 2016



**MORNING CONSULT**

The 2016 poll surveyed 2,173 registered voters from Jan. 8-10, 2016. It has a MoE of +/- two percentage points. The 2018 poll surveyed 1,994 registered voters from Jan. 18-20, 2018. It has a MoE of +/- two percentage points.

## Events Calendar (All Times Local)

### MONDAY

<u>Internet Education Foundation's State of the Net conference</u>	8 a.m.
<u>Brookings Institution event previewing Trump's State of the Union address</u>	10 a.m.
<u>Washington Post event previewing Trump's State of the Union address</u>	2:30 p.m.

### TUESDAY

<u>Sen. Murray, Rep. Foxx participate in Council for Higher Education Accreditation conference</u>	7:30 a.m.
<u>Sen. Shaheen, Rep. Luetkemeyer participate in Bipartisan Policy Center event financial system</u>	9 a.m.
<u>House Energy &amp; Commerce subcommittee hearing on broadband infrastructure</u>	10 a.m.
<u>CBO director testifies before House Budget Committee</u>	10 a.m.
<u>Treasury's Mnuchin testifies at Senate Banking Committee hearing</u>	10 a.m.
<u>Senate Armed Services subcommittee hearing on Korean Peninsula and U.S. strategy</u>	10 a.m.
<u>EPA's Pruitt testifies at Senate Environment and Public Works Committee hearing</u>	10 a.m.
<u>Senate HELP Committee hearing on reauthorizing the Higher Education Act</u>	10 a.m.

House Financial Services subcommittee hearing on how human traffickers use U.S. financial markets

2 p.m.

Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearing on the economic relationship between the U.S., Canada, Mexico

2:30  
p.m.

### **WEDNESDAY**

Rep. Bobby Scott participates in Council for Higher Education Accreditation conference

8:30  
a.m.

Turkish Heritage Organization event on U.S.-Turkey strategic alliance

1 p.m.

Canadian Foreign Minister Freeland participates in Council on Foreign Relations event on NAFTA

5:30  
p.m.

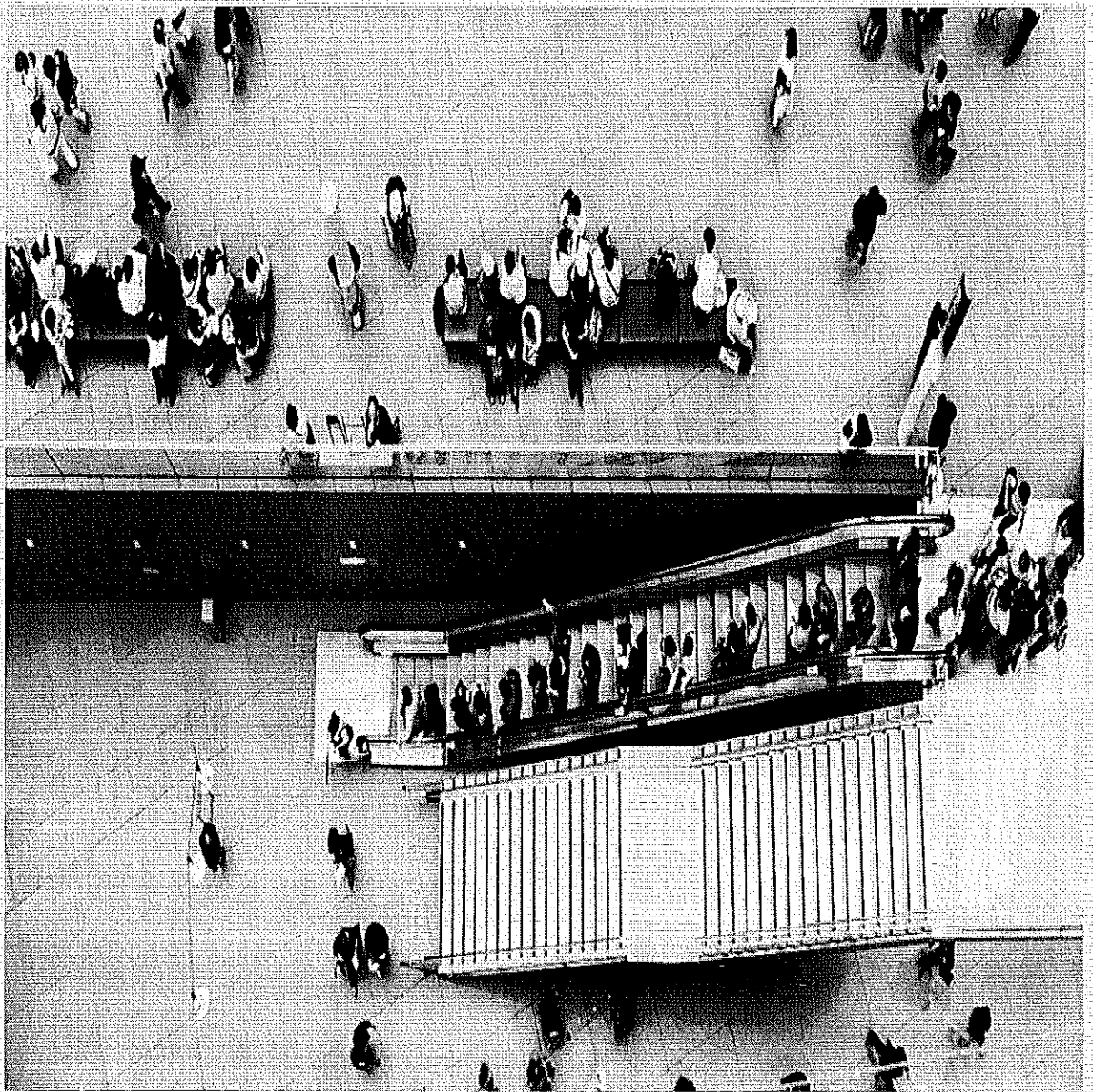
### **THURSDAY**

No events scheduled

### **FRIDAY**

American Enterprise Institute event on bridging the divide between education and employment

9:15  
a.m.



## **The Most Polarizing Brands in America**

From the NFL to CNN, here are the brands that divide Democrats and Republicans the most.

## **General**

### **Steve Wynn Fallout Ripples as Republicans Seek Distance** **Kristina Peterson et al., The Wall Street Journal**

Republicans on Sunday worked to distance themselves from Steve Wynn in the wake of a Wall Street Journal report of former employees describing a decadeslong pattern of sexual misconduct by the casino mogul and GOP financial bigwig. The allegations against one of Las Vegas's most powerful figures reverberated in the political world over the weekend, as Mr. Wynn stepped down from his post as Republican National Committee finance chairman.

### **Republicans Show Little Urgency on Legislation to Protect Mueller** **Sheryl Gay Stolberg and Nicholas Fandos, The New York Times**

Republican lawmakers warned President Trump on Sunday not to fire Robert S. Mueller III, but showed little sense of urgency to advance long-stalled legislation to protect the special counsel despite a report that Mr. Trump had tried to remove him last June. "I don't think there's a need for legislation right now to protect Mueller," Representative Kevin McCarthy of California, the House majority leader, said Sunday on NBC's "Meet the Press."

### **Lawmakers call on Trump to drop bid for legal immigration cuts** **David Nakamura, The Washington Post**

Lawmakers in both parties said Sunday that the immigration debate should focus narrowly on efforts to legalize young immigrants known as "dreamers" and beef up border security, suggesting that President Trump's demands to slash legal immigration levels are likely to sink a deal. Democrats have voiced fierce opposition to a White House plan, released late last week, that featured a path to citizenship for 1.8 million

dreamers in exchange for \$25 billion for his border wall and sharp cuts to family immigration visas.

**All Signs Point to Big Democratic Wins in 2018**  
**Greg Giroux, Bloomberg**

History, demographics and the national mood are pointing to one conclusion about the 2018 congressional races: Democrats are well-positioned to bring one-party government in Washington under Donald Trump's presidency to a screeching halt. There's a confluence of evidence indicating a so-called wave election may be building that would allow Democrats to wrest the House of Representatives from Republican control.

**Hillary Clinton Let Him Stay. Women Say His Harassment Continued.**  
**Ruby Cramer, BuzzFeed News**

In 2007, while working for the candidate who hoped to be the first female president, a young woman filed a complaint against her boss - the campaign's faith adviser. She described "five kisses on the head" and "excessive tracking" of her whereabouts, among other complaints of harassment, according to campaign documents from the time.

**The Plot Against America**  
**Franklin Foer, The Atlantic**

The clinic permitted Paul Manafort one 10-minute call each day. And each day, he would use it to ring his wife from Arizona, his voice often soaked in tears.

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## **Presidential**

**What Voters Want to Hear from Trump's State of the Union**  
**Eli Yokley, Morning Consult**

Voters most want President Donald Trump to focus on improving the health care system, economy and creating jobs during his first State of the Union address Tuesday night, according to a new Morning Consult/Politico poll. The survey of 1,994 registered voters from Jan. 18-20 found 82 percent said health care was very important or somewhat important for the president to discuss.

### **Trump to Test His Base With Bipartisan Call in State of the Union**

**Justin Sink et al., Bloomberg**

Donald Trump's State of the Union address on Tuesday will be one of the president's last, best chances to win over more of the American public to his nationalist agenda ahead of midterm elections that will be a referendum on his tumultuous administration. White House officials say the president will dial back his signature combative posture and instead frame his policy proposals - from immigration to infrastructure - as areas where Democrats and Republicans can work together.

### **Deadline looms for Trump and Russia sanctions**

**Elana Schor, Politico**

President Donald Trump's willingness to crack down on Russia will be seriously tested come Monday. Trump faces a major deadline to use the Russia sanctions power that Congress overwhelmingly voted to give him - and it's anybody's guess as to whether he'll comply on time after missing the last deadline.

### **Trump sought release of classified Russia memo, putting him at odds with Justice Department**

**Ashley Parker et al., The Washington Post**

On Wednesday, as Republicans were clamoring to make public a secret document they think will undercut the investigation into Russian meddling, President Trump made clear his desire: Release the memo. Trump's directive was at odds with his own Justice Department, which had warned that releasing the classified memo written by congressional



Republicans would be "extraordinarily reckless" without an official review.

### **Trump Pick for Chile Ambassador Entwined in Kushner Family Deals**

**Caleb Melby et al., Bloomberg**

When the White House nominated a new ambassador to Chile this month, it touted his role running his father's food-importing business. Not mentioned: his deep financial ties to the family of Jared Kushner.

### **Pence to headline Trump hotel dinner to raise money for GOP candidates**

**Alex Isenstadt, Politico**

Vice President Mike Pence, looking to buttress his party ahead of what is shaping up to be a difficult midterm election season, will headline a high-dollar fundraising dinner Monday that is expected to net about \$500,000 for his leadership PAC, according to an administration official. The Great America Committee event, to be held at the Trump hotel in Washington, is expected to draw a number of congressional Republicans, including Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy and House Majority Whip Steve Scalise, the official said.

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## **Senate**

### **Senators want Trump's State of the Union to show 'compassion' toward Dreamers**

**Seung Min Kim and Rachael Bade, Politico**

President Donald Trump's inaugural State of the Union on Tuesday could offer an opportunity for the first-term leader to unify Congress behind a plan to protect the undocumented immigrants known as Dreamers. Instead, the immigration blueprint his administration laid out days before the highly anticipated address is splintering Congress in all directions, with conservatives complaining it provides amnesty for

immigrants who lack legal status and Democrats recoiling from Trump's pitch to restrict legal, family-based immigration.

**Rubio fires chief of staff for improper relations with subordinates**

**Marc Caputo and Henry C. Jackson, Politico**

Sen. Marco Rubio has fired his chief of staff after determining he violated office policies regarding proper relations between a supervisor and subordinates. Rubio said in a statement that an investigation concluded his chief of staff Clint Reed engaged in behavior that "in my judgement amounted to threats to withhold employment benefits."

**With \$2.4 million haul, Ted Cruz challenger Beto O'Rourke has his biggest fundraising quarter yet**  
**Patrick Svitek, The Texas Tribune**

U.S. Rep. Beto O'Rourke, D-El Paso, says he raised more than \$2.4 million over the last three months - his biggest fundraising quarter since he launched his campaign to unseat U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas. The figure was accompanied by a spike in the number of individual contributions that his campaign received - from almost 33,000 in the third quarter to over 55,000 during the most recent period, he said in an interview.

**Resolution to nudge Joe Arpaio out of the Senate race withdrawn by Arizona GOP activist**  
**Dan Nowicki, The Arizona Republic**

A draft Arizona Republican Party resolution seeking to nudge former Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio out of this year's GOP Senate primary was withdrawn ahead of Saturday's state party meeting. The resolution, first reported by The Arizona Republic, would have showered Arpaio with praise and "gratitude" before "respectfully" urging the Fountain Hills resident to abandon the Republican race to his rivals, U.S.

Rep. Martha McSally of Tucson and former state Sen. Kelli Ward of Lake Havasu City.

## House

### **GOP's Gowdy says he supports Mueller '100 percent'** **Patrick Temple-West, Politico**

A Republican member of the House Intelligence Committee said Sunday he supports special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into Russia's potential interference in the 2016 election and the Trump campaign's contacts with Russia. Speaking on "Fox News Sunday," Rep. Trey Gowdy said he supports Mueller "100 percent."

### **Secret Memo Hints at a New Republican Target: Rod Rosenstein** **Nicholas Fandos et al., The New York Times**

A secret, highly contentious Republican memo reveals that Deputy Attorney General Rod J. Rosenstein approved an application to extend surveillance of a former Trump campaign associate shortly after taking office last spring, according to three people familiar with it. The renewal shows that the Justice Department under President Trump saw reason to believe that the associate, Carter Page, was acting as a Russian agent.

### **Pureval tells donors he intends to run for Chabot's seat this fall** **Chris Wetterich, Cincinnati Business Courier**

National Democrats probably have landed a big Cincinnati recruit in their quest to take back the U.S. House this year. Hamilton County Clerk of Courts Aftab Pureval requested donors support him if he runs for U.S. Rep. Steve Chabot's, R-Westwood, seat in November and told them he intends to jump in the race.

## States

### **Attorney General Lori Swanson running for re-election, not governor**

**J. Patrick Coolican, Star Tribune**

Attorney General Lori Swanson told supporters Sunday that she is running for re-election, ending months of speculation that she would enter the race for governor. The third-term DFL attorney general had been considered a top contender for her party's nomination for governor.

### **New York, New Jersey, Connecticut unite to sue government over SALT deduction limit**

**Joseph Lawler, Washington Examiner**

Three blue-state governors in the Northeast announced Friday that they are banding together to sue the federal government over the Republican-passed tax law that limits the deductibility of state and local taxes. "New Yorkers will not stand idly by as the federal government fires an economic missile at the fiscal health of our state," New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo said in announcing the coalition. New Jersey and Connecticut are the other two states.

### **N.Y. Governor's Protest of Federal Tax Law Faces Some Resistance Upstate**

**Mike Vilensky, The Wall Street Journal**

How will the politics of the new federal tax law play out in high-tax states? It depends where you live.

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## Advocacy

### **Koch Groups Move On From Health-Care Fight**

**Julie Bykowicz, The Wall Street Journal**

The billionaire Koch brothers' political organization spent more than \$200 million in the past decade on what official Tim Phillips calls "without question our biggest policy defeat," the quest to kill the Affordable Care Act. Now, the network of donors is turning its attention to the more urgent matter of protecting Republican majorities in both chambers of Congress this fall.

**Koch network gears up for the next Supreme Court vacancy**  
**Michelle Ye Hee Lee, The Washington Post**

The Koch network is expanding its portfolio into the judicial branch. Americans for Prosperity, the main political arm of the influential network led by billionaire industrialist Charles Koch, announced Sunday that it has hired Sarah Field, former director of state court strategy for the Federalist Society, as vice president of judicial strategy.

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## **Opinions, Editorials and Perspectives**

**Trump's Call to End Family Migration and the Impact on Families of Color**  
**Sameera Hafiz, Morning Consult**

President Donald Trump, along with conservative politicians and groups with deep racist roots, has reignited attacking families through the current Dream Act negotiations and are likely to continue during this week's State of the Union address. Despite publicly espousing family values, they are now calling for an end to family migration, which allows hundreds of thousands of people to be reunited with their families.

**Without immigration, America will stagnate**  
**Fred Hiatt, The Washington Post**

Message to Republicans: You can be pro-growth. You can be anti-immigration. But, honestly, you can't be both.

### **Fusion's Russian Dirty Work** **The Editorial Board, The Wall Street Journal**

Media defenders of Fusion GPS and the FBI are criticizing as friends of the Kremlin anyone who dares raise questions about their behavior during the 2016 campaign. You almost have to admire their loyalty to sources, if not to readers.

### **The Gathering Threat to Abortion Rights** **The Editorial Board, The New York Times**

People who care about basic American freedoms should be grateful to the Senate majority leader, Mitch McConnell, for one thing: He has given liberals another good reason to flock to the polls in November. Mr. McConnell is set to hold a procedural vote this week on a bill that would ban abortion at 20 weeks of pregnancy.

### **Trump abuses show we must turn traditions into laws** **Preet Bharara and Christine Todd Whitman, USA Today**

One year into the Trump presidency, it's clear that the norms and boundaries traditionally guiding American political behavior have deeply eroded. That matters greatly. A workable democracy can thrive only when there are basic rules, often unwritten, that curb abuse and guide policymakers.

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## **Research Reports and Polling**

### **Poll: Millennials say the country is on the wrong track, but they're not** **Stephanie Perry and Andrew Arengue, NBC News**

Millennials think things in the country are off on the wrong track but at the same time, they're optimistic about their own futures, according to a

new NBC News/GenForward survey. Nearly two-thirds of millennials (63 percent) think things in this country are off on the wrong track.

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Dear Members,

Forty-five years ago, a group of state leaders came together to form the American Legislative Exchange Council—people like Lew Uhler, Lou Barnett, Mark Rhoads, Henry Hyde, Terry Branstad and John Engler. They knew then, as we know now, that legislators and members of the private sector working together can have a more meaningful impact and create more opportunity for Americans than the government can working alone. They understood that a grassroots network of liberty-minded advocates was fundamental to spreading good ideas, but they likely had no idea how important ALEC would become.

For forty-five years, ALEC has been ahead of the

#### Committee Members

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curve on tax and fiscal policy, lawsuit reform, education choice, criminal justice and so many other issues fundamental to the American way of life. And, because of our focus on federalism rather than one-size-fits-all policy, ALEC has been able to put forth winning ideas--ideas that were more deeply vetted and more consistent with the will of the people.

Over the past year, the federal government has taken great steps to return power to the states. Through landmark tax reform and rule making designed to reduce the size of the federal government, our national leaders have signalled that now is the time for states to lead.

Just last night, the President offered a vision of a government that works hard to protect taxpayers and focuses on economic security for the middle class. Over the past year, that vision has become a reality with an \$8 trillion increase in the stock market, 2.4 million new jobs, a record low for unemployment and businesses reinvesting in the states.

The past two months of bonus and compensation announcements across the American business landscape confirm to the American people what we already know: sound policy that unburdens American entrepreneurs and businesses yields a positive outcome for all Americans.

So as the 2018 legislative session heats up in your states, remember the ALEC mission and vision in all that you do. Limited government, free markets and federalism are a winning recipe for growth and opportunity.

I hope you will join me in celebrating the ALEC 45th Anniversary both in Washington, DC on

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September 26, and in your state.

Together, we can ensure ALEC continues it's  
ascendent path for another 45 years.

Sincerely,  
Lisa B. Nelson  
Chief Executive Officer  
American Legislative Exchange Council



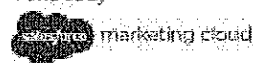
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The American Legislative Exchange Council is the largest voluntary organization of conservative state legislators. ALEC works to advance the principles of limited government, free markets, and federalism at the state level.

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**From:** Katie McAuliffe - Digital Liberty  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 1, 2018 11:25 AM  
**To:** Rep88  
**Subject:** Oppose Ohio "Net Neutrality" Legislation- Support Title II Repeal

February 1, 2018



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## Combat Confusion - Title II Repeal Resource

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I understand there may be consideration of some kind of "net neutrality" style legislation in Ohio. **We ask that you oppose any so-called net neutrality legislation.** In the following sections, we have included information as to why these types of bills will be harmful for your state.

In this email you will find:

- **State Bills lead to a segregated internet**
- **Answers to questions about why the FCC repealed Title II regulation of the Internet and what that means**
- **Support for the FCC's Restoring Internet Freedom Order from outside groups with links, including this [coalition letter](#) to Senators and Representatives.**

I hope you find this helpful.

Regards,

Katie McAuliffe  
Executive Director, Digital Liberty  
Federal Affairs Manager, Americans for Tax Reform  
(o) 202-785-0266  
kmcauliffe@atr.org

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## Prevent a Segregated Internet

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State legislation is not needed to solve a perceived problem. **Legislation will create an internet segregated at state borders**, and only lead to costly litigation because the internet is inherently interstate commerce.

While legislation intends to protect consumers from blocking and throttling, it creates a larger problem. Having a patchwork of different state laws that apply to the infrastructure that we communicate and do business over, **creates a divided internet where traffic will actually end up treated unequally.**

Since these types of laws have the unintended consequence of disrupting commerce between the states, **states passing any version of net neutrality or Title II laws will face lawsuits costing taxpayers millions.**

Further, these types of laws **will discourage investment in your states internet infrastructure**, slowing the deployment of not only new wired connections and network upgrades, but also 5G deployment.

**To prevent a segregated internet, the best federal Open Internet legislation would:**

- Give authority to the Federal Trade Commission
- And encompass the following principles:
  - Internet experiences—including content, technology, information, and delivery—should be consumer-driven not government-driven.
  - The role of state and federal governments is to deter fraud, enforce contracts, and arbitrate disputes.
  - Clear, consistent, and limited government maximizes innovation and competition.
  - Reliable internet access encourages and accelerates economic growth and development.

**Title II did not achieve the purported goals:**

- No blocking, No throttling, No paid prioritization
- The D.C. Circuit Court said that the Title II internet order allowed ISPs to offer filtered Internet access,

**There is a federal bill, The Open Internet Preservation Act**

- That includes no blocking and no throttling for anti-competitive non-network management purposes

- Transparency requirements
- Gives FCC limited authority
- This bill is okay, but a better bill would place this authority with the Federal Trade Commission
  - uses a case-by-case approach established in precedent rather than a prescriptive regulations that cannot adapt to future technologies
  - considers the full internet ecosystem

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## Q&A

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**Q: Why is the FCC killing the Internet?**

**A: This is the same constantly improving and innovating Internet. Nothing died.**

- The FCC reinstituted the framework signed into law by Bill Clinton
- We have had 20 years of explosive internet innovation under that framework
- Title II would have put the Internet under utility style laws like the electric grid
  - Utility laws stifle innovation
  - Utility laws are one of the reasons we don't have a smart grid, but we do have smart phones!

**Q: Are ISPs going to start charging customers for filtered Internet access?**

**A: Title II did not stop ISPs from "filtering" Internet access**

- The D.C. Circuit Court said that Title II allows ISPs to offer filtered Internet access, & also said that none were doing so because of fear of subscriber losses. Market forces, not the Title II rules, are regulating this conduct.
- Some people will never accept market forces as a solution, either for broadband or otherwise... Good thing **there are and have always been consumer protections at the Federal Trade Commission (keep reading).**

**Q: What if my ISP tries to block content of a competitor?**

**A: If an ISP were to advantage its own content over a competitor:**

- that would be in violation of competition, anti-trust, or deceptive practice standards. Enforceable by State Attorneys Generals and/or the Federal Trade Commission
  - state consumer protection laws will apply and state attorneys general can bring actions against ISPs

- federal antitrust law will protect against discriminatory conduct by ISPs. As a former Obama Administration FTC Chairman recently said, this is a "formidable hammer against anyone who would harmfully block, throttle or prioritize traffic."
- The Federal Trade Commission is able to police ISPs that engage in unfair and deceptive practices through its consumer protection authority
  - When the FCC classified broadband as a Title II service in 2015, it divested the Federal Trade Commission of 100% of its consumer protection authority over ISPs, including its ability to police ISPs that engage in unfair or deceptive practices. Repealing Title II will restore those important protections for Internet openness.

**Q: What about my data privacy?**

**A: Consumers have regained strong online privacy protections from the Federal Trade Commission.**

- Before the FCC stripped it of jurisdiction, the FTC—the nation's most experienced privacy enforcement agency—brought over 500 privacy enforcement actions, including against ISPs. By reversing Title II, consumers get those privacy protections back.

**Q: Will ISPs start censoring content?**

**A: Your ISP has not and will not censor content**

- **Content censorship is more likely to come from:**
- Governments - think Arab Spring and short term internet shut downs during that time, or general political censorship in China (more on government censorship below)
  - Platforms that moderate what users post based on policies, terms, and agreements for using the platform, app or service.
  - Also, slower loading pages are more likely caused by the number of advertisements, images, or videos loading in side bars
- **Governments Censor & Title II gave the Government more control over the Internet Infrastructure**
  - Outside of the US, there were 81 short-term internet shutdowns that occurred in 19 countries between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016
  - During that time: India lost \$968 million from internet shutdowns, Saudi Arabia lost \$465 million, Morocco lost \$320 million, Iraq lost \$209 million, Brazil lost \$116 million, and the Republic of the Congo lost \$72 million
  - Governments are willing to take financial hits to maintain power, especially when they can always raise more money from taxpayers
  - Companies want to make money
    - they may experiment with new business models, but if consumers don't like it, they quickly stop
    - Blocking or filtering content will cause them to lose subscribers.

**Q: If Title II didn't prevent blocking or filtering, and there were already protections at the FTC, then why did the FCC pass new "net neutrality" rules?**



**A: The FCC wanted to expand its own jurisdiction.**

- With most communications moving online, the FCC is becoming increasingly obsolete. The only real way to ensure its future existence (and power) was to expand its jurisdiction.
- The 1996 Telecommunications Act did not give the FCC authority over the internet
- The FCC did some creative interpreting of the law to expand its own jurisdiction into an area already covered by another agency, the FTC
- We don't need duplicative regulation and authorities - that's costly to innovation and to taxpayers
- The FTC has authority to punish bad actors. If Congress thinks there should be additional authority, then Congress should pass legislation. The FCC and FTC are creations of Congress and should only within the bounds that Congress gave them.

**Q: What Now?**

**A: Its time for Federal Legislation**

- Anyone pushing litigation over legislation is missing the point
- "Net Neutrality" has been pinballing through the FCC and the Courts for far too long.
- The FCC lost its cases in 2010 and 2012. And don't forget that the FCC's 2015 Title II Order could still be taken up by the Supreme Court over the legal question Chevron deference - or whether courts should defer to agencies when agencies grant themselves power

**Free Market Open Internet Principles:**

- Internet experiences—including content, technology, information, and delivery—should be consumer-driven not government-driven.
- The role of state and federal governments is to deter fraud, enforce contracts, and arbitrate disputes.
- Clear, consistent, and limited government maximizes innovation and competition.
- Reliable internet access encourages and accelerates economic growth and development.

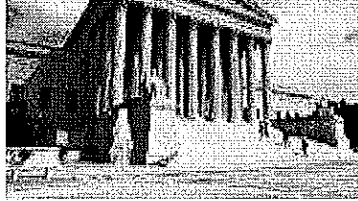
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## Articles & Statements of Support for Title II Repeal

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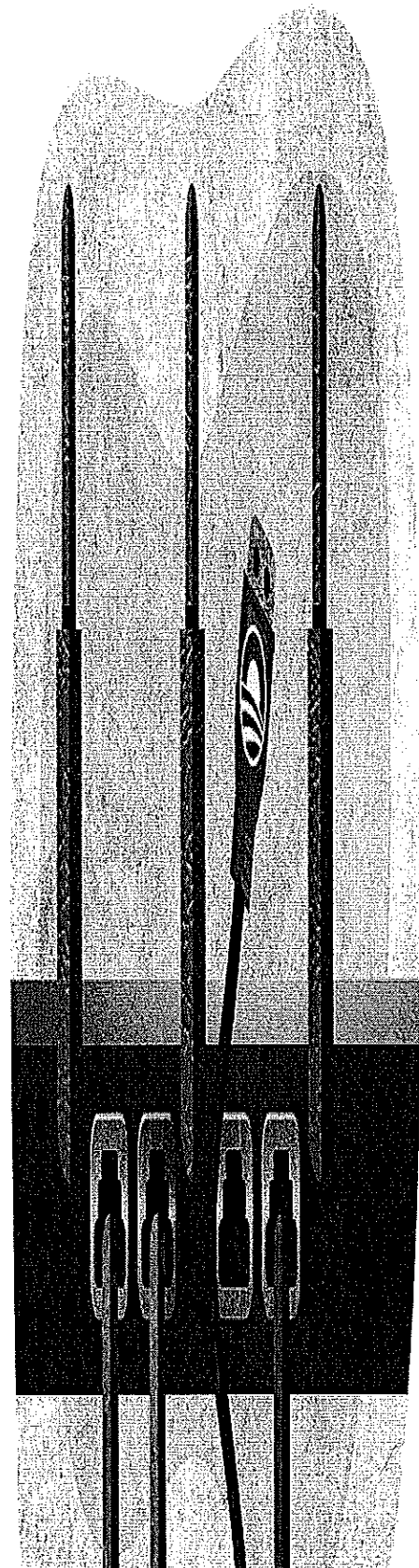


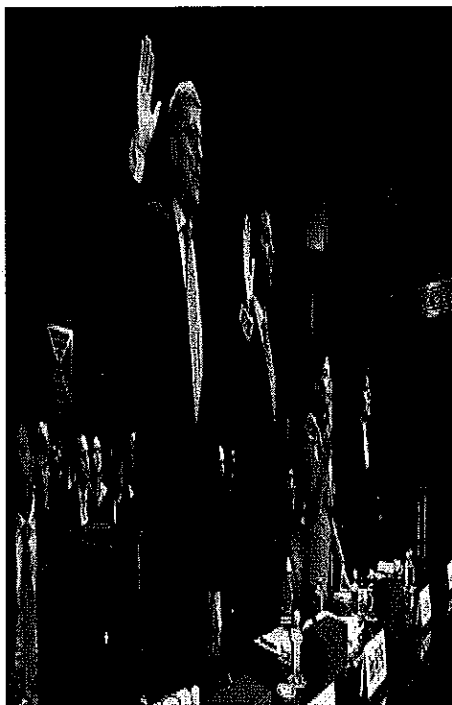
### **Coalition to Congress: Stop Democrat Efforts to Control...**

Today Americans for Tax Reform, along with a number of center-right organizations, sent a letter to members of the House and Senate opposing usage of the Congressional Review Act to overturn the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Restoring ...

[Read more](#)  
[www.atr.org](http://www.atr.org)

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### **Everybody Calm Down About Net Neutrality**

The FCC's vote this week only restores power to the Federal Trade Commission, whose record is strong.

[Read more](#)  
[www.wsj.com](http://www.wsj.com)

### **Restoring a light touch to FCC internet regulations**

Over the last two weeks, there has been a vigorous debate about internet regulation. Under the plan I recently proposed, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) would restore internet freedom by rolling back heavy-handed government...

[Read more](#)  
[www.washingtontimes.com](http://www.washingtontimes.com)



### **The destiny of telecom regulation is antitrust**

This week the FCC will vote on Chairman Ajit Pai's Restoring Internet Freedom Order. Once implemented, the Order will rescind the 2015 Open Internet Order and return antitrust and consumer protection enforcement to primacy in Internet access...

[Read more](#)  
[truthonthemarket.com](http://truthonthemarket.com)

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### **FCC votes to Restore Internet Freedom**



Americans for Tax Reform released a letter in support of S. 2222 which will expand 529 savings accounts to include apprenticeship programs. This legislation will help bring more job opportunities to young Americans. The full letter can be found...

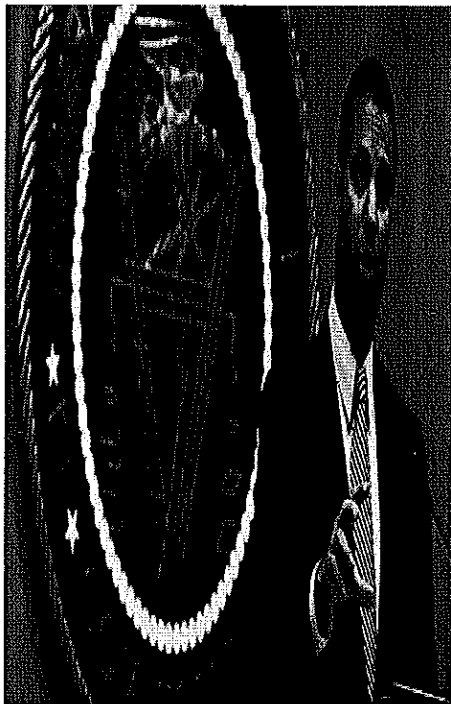
[Read more](http://www.atr.org)  
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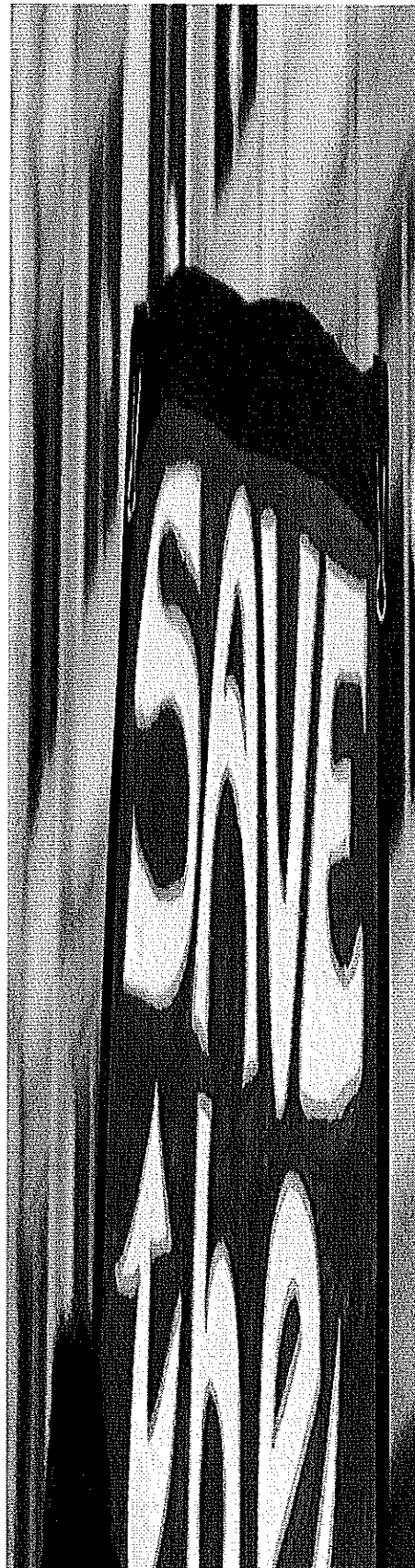
## FTC, FCC Outline Agreement to Coordinate Online Consumer ...

The Federal Trade Commission and Federal Communications Commission (FCC) announced their intent to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) under which the two agencies would coordinate online consumer protection efforts following the...

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[www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov)



**The Internet Is Free Again**



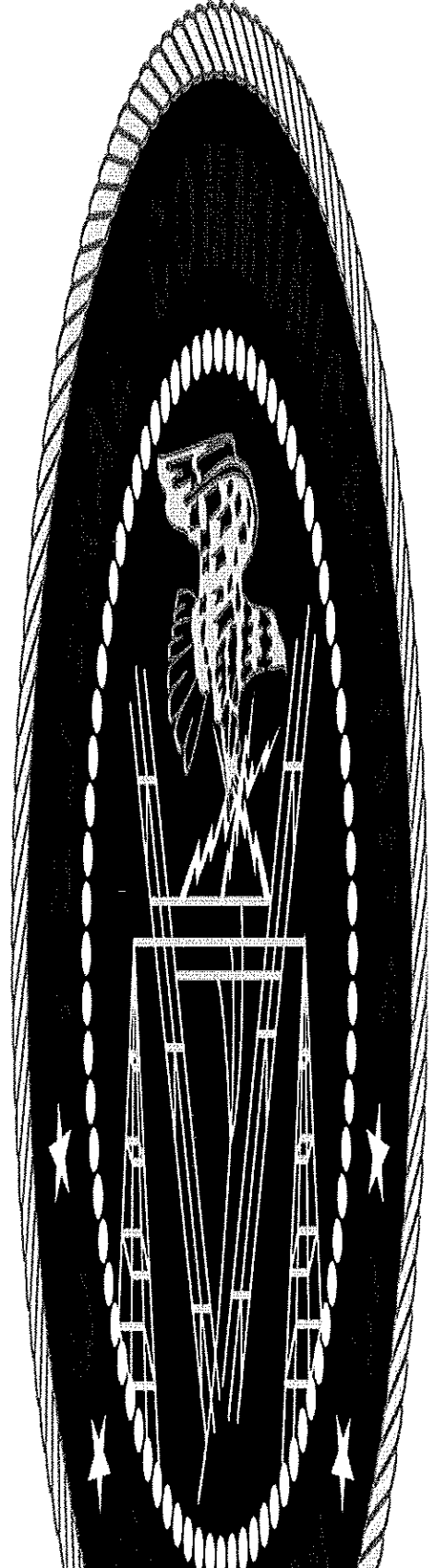
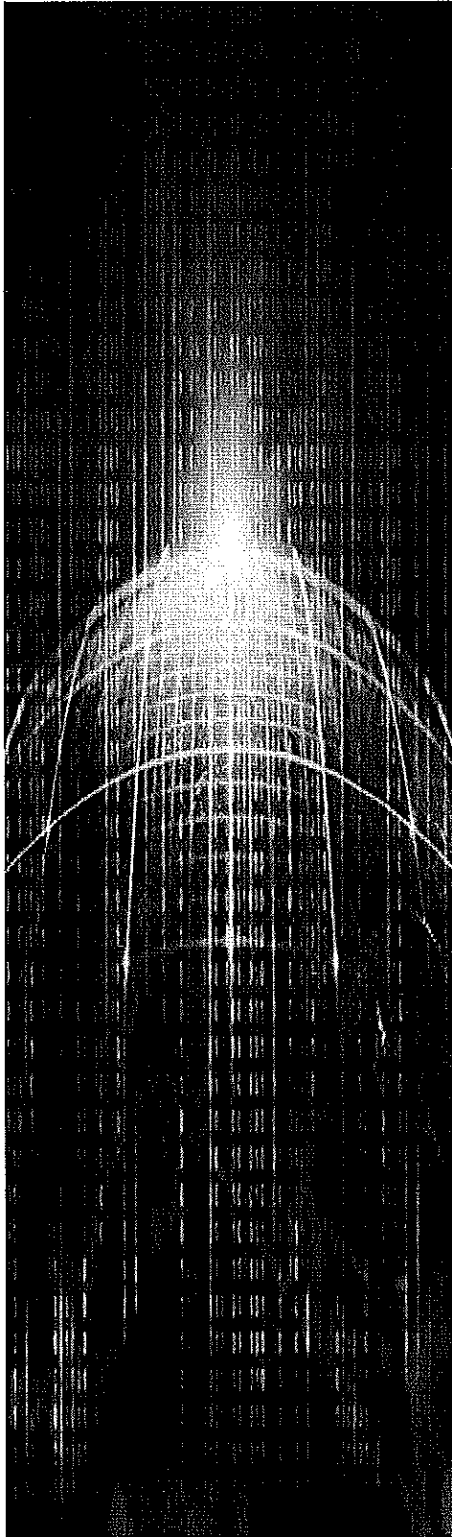
Killing Obama-era rules will remove the FCC as political gatekeeper.

[Read more](#)  
[www.wsj.com](http://www.wsj.com)

## **No, the Internet is not about to be destroyed**

CLOSE Worries that web providers will ruin access are unfounded. They have every incentive to offer their customers maximum access to Internet services. The headlines regarding the Federal Communications Commission's upcoming vote on "net..."

[Read more](#)  
[www.usatoday.com](http://www.usatoday.com)



### **AFP: FCC Vote to Repeal Net Neutrality Will Restore...**

Arlington, Va. - Today, Americans for Prosperity commended the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for voting to repeal Obama-era internet regulations, which improperly classified the internet as a Title II telecommunications service under...

[Read more](#)  
[americansforprosperity.org](http://americansforprosperity.org)

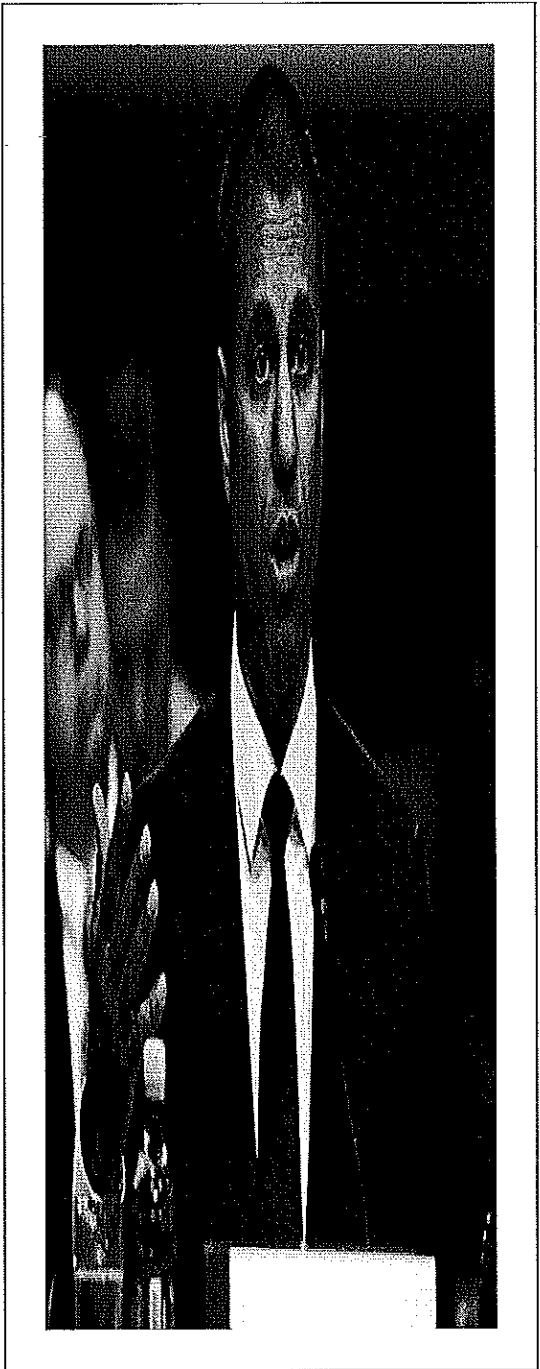
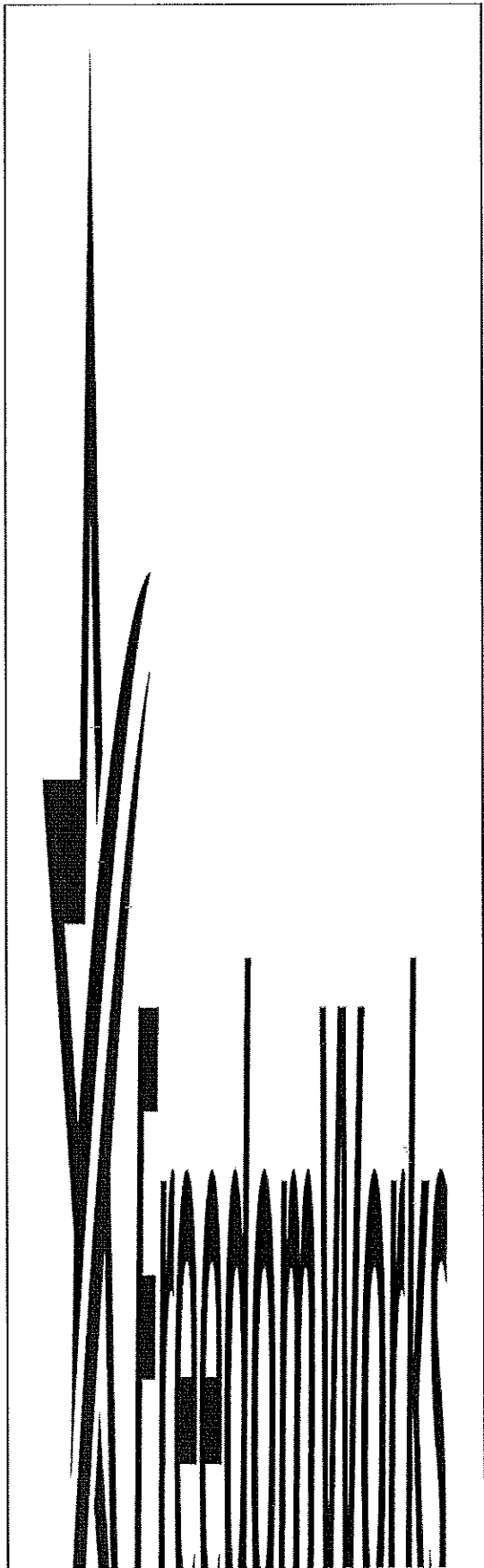
### **FCC Votes to Put the Consumer Back in Charge of the...**

Today's vote at the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) puts individual consumers back in charge of their internet experience. The vote rolled back a 2015 Order reclassifying the internet as a 1930s telecommunications utility and restored the ...

[Read more](#)  
[www.alec.org](http://www.alec.org)

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### **FreedomWorks Hails the Passage of the Restoring Internet ...**

Today the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) voted to enact the Restoring Internet Freedom Order, reversing regulation of Internet service providers (ISPs) under Title II of the Communications Act of 1934 and returning to a Title I framework ...

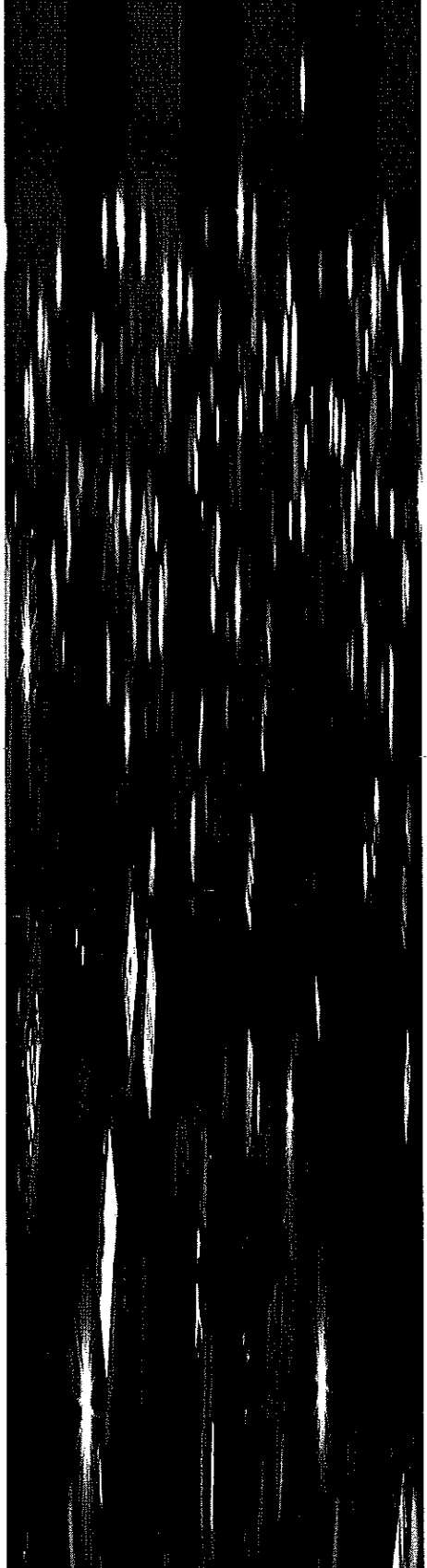
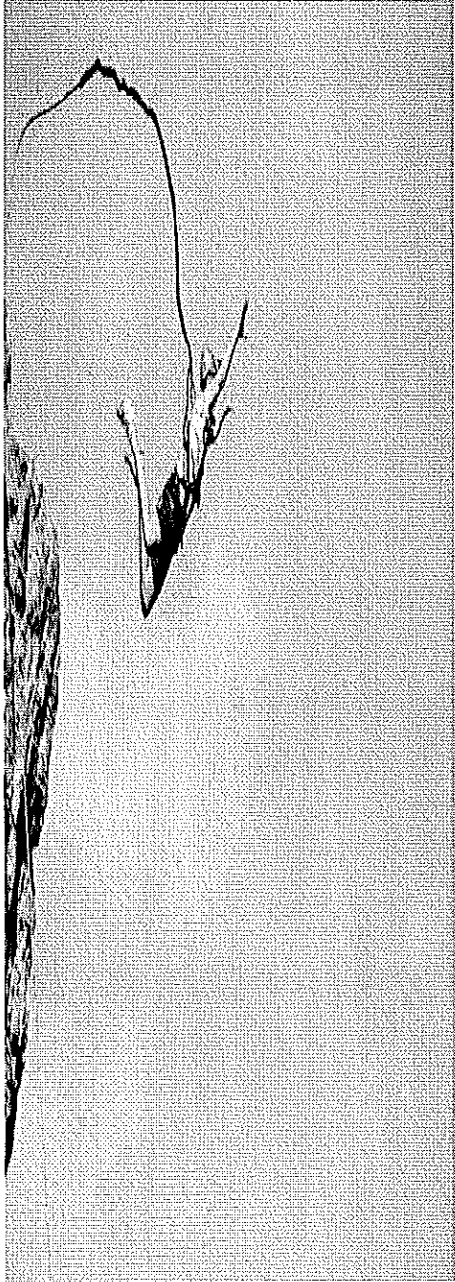
[Read more](#)  
[www.freedomworks.org](http://www.freedomworks.org)

### **The FCC Just Voted to Roll Back Obama-Era Net Neutrality ...**

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) voted on a party line vote today to rescind the net neutrality rules passed by the agency under President Obama. Two Republican-appointed commissioners joined agency Chairman Ajit Pai in a 3-2 vote to...

[Read more](#)  
[reason.com](http://reason.com)

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### **Dear Aunt Sadie, Please Step Back From The Net...**

In the 25 years I've been toiling in the mines of tech policy, I've developed what I call the Aunt Sadie test. Most of the issues I research and write about are woefully technical, legal, economic and boring; of interest to more and more people...

[Read more](http://www.forbes.com)  
[www.forbes.com](http://www.forbes.com)

### **Global economy loses billions from internet shutdowns**

This past June, the United Nations Human Rights Council passed a non-binding resolution condemning the intentional shutdown or disruption of domestic internet access. Despite the support of many me...

[Read more](http://www.brookings.edu)  
[www.brookings.edu](http://www.brookings.edu)



## **The FCC's defining case for repealing internet regulations**

The expected blizzard of social media and online commentary has followed the FCC's announced proposal to repeal public utility



regulation it imposed on broadband Internet access back in 2015. Yet much of the online chatter ignores the legal issue

...

[Read more  
thehill.com](http://thehill.com)

## **CEI Responds to FCC Repeal of Net Neutrality Regulations**

Competitive Enterprise Institute's Ryan Radia responded to the Federal Communications Commission's vote today to repeal net neutrality regulations: "Today's FCC vote to restore Internet freedom is a victory for consumers. Building the networks of ...

[Read more  
cei.org](http://cei.org)

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# Digital Liberty

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## **Internet Freedom Survives Cyber Bullies | Digital Liberty**

Digital Liberty advocates for a consumer-driven market free from heavy regulation or taxation of the Internet, technology, telecommunications, video games, and media. We believe that free markets and consumer choice - not bureaucrats - should...

[Read more  
www.digitalliberty.net](http://www.digitalliberty.net)

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### **Citizens Against Government Waste Cheers FCC's...**

For Immediate Release Contact: Curtis Kalin 202-467-5318 December 14, 2017 (Washington, D.C.) - Today, Citizens Against Government Waste (CAGW) President Tom Schatz released a statement following the approval of the landmark Restoring Internet...

## **Debunking the Left's Myths on Net Neutrality**

The end of the world is nigh. That at least is the message being spread by last-ditch defenders of the Obama-era "network neutrality" rules, which Federal Communications Commission Chairman Ajit Pai has scheduled for elimination later this month. ...

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[www.heritage.org](http://www.heritage.org)

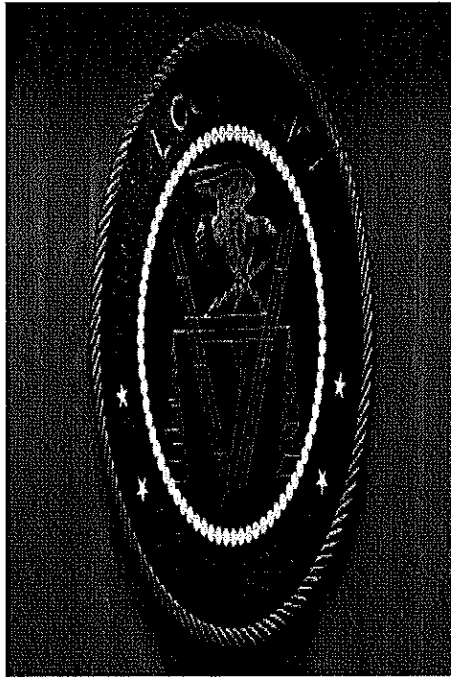
[Read more](#)  
[www.cagw.org](http://www.cagw.org)

## **ACU Praises FCC Chairman Ajit Pai's Unwavering Resolve...**

WASHINGTON DC - The American Conservative Union (ACU) applauds Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Chairman Ajit Pai for his decision to end Obama-era regulations imposed on the internet and restore internet freedom. Chairman Pai has faced a...



[Read more](#)  
[conservative.org](http://conservative.org)



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### **On net neutrality and the competition solution: a Q&A - AEI**

Given the FCC's regulatory rollback decision on net neutrality, I thought it might be a good time to re-up some of my podcast interview with Brent Skorup, a research fellow in the technology policy program at the Mercatus Center at George Mason...

[Read more](#)  
[www.aei.org](http://www.aei.org)

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Katie McAuliffe | Americans for Tax Reform | 202-785-0266 | [kmcauliffe@atr.org](mailto:kmcauliffe@atr.org) | [www.atr.org](http://www.atr.org)

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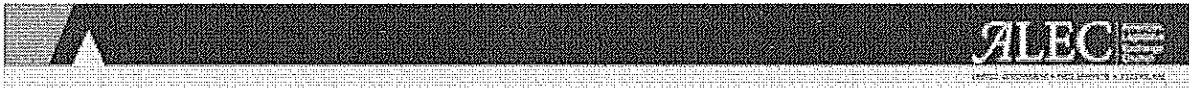
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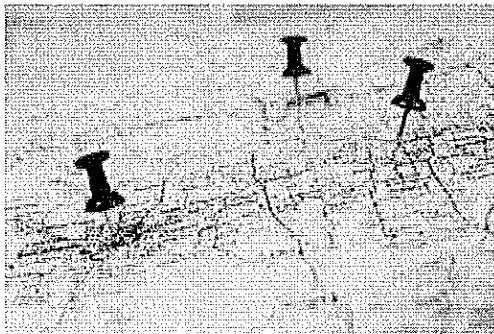
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## Center to Protect Free Speech Starts Off 2018 with Multiple State Issue Briefs

Contact Shelby Emmett for more information: [Semmett@alec.org](mailto:Semmett@alec.org)



The Center to Protect Free Speech has been busy holding issue briefs in states across the country—and it's only the first week of February. So far, the Center has traveled to Nebraska and Missouri. The Center will be traveling to Kansas and Pennsylvania in the coming months. If you'd like to schedule an issue briefing in your state, [contact Center Director Shelby Emmett](#).

## Campus Speech

## ALEC Model Policy, the Forming Open and Robust University Minds (FORUM) Act Gains Momentum in the States

Shelby Emmett | Center to Protect Free Speech



The FORUM Act has brought together student groups, free speech advocates and legislators as they work to protect free speech for all students on campus. To date, legislation has been introduced in South Carolina, South Dakota and Iowa. The Center has also helped educate lawmakers as they tackle free speech on campus in Arizona, Florida, Nebraska and Georgia. If you have questions about free speech in your state, please contact the Center. We are here to help!

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## Donor Privacy/Disclosure

### **Washington State Legislators to Nonprofits: Give Us Your Donor List or Shut Up**

Alex Baiocco | *Institute for Free Speech*



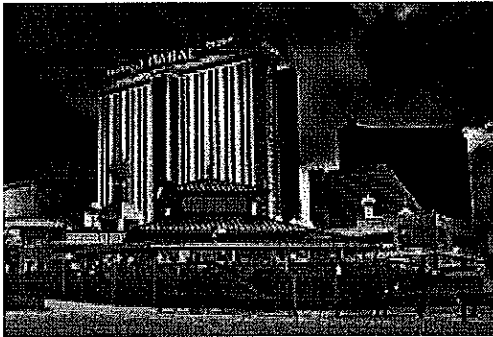
Alex Baiocco writes a great piece about the Washington DISCLOSE Act on the Institute for Free Speech website. If your state is considering DISCLOSE-type legislation please contact the Center. You may be surprised how bills intended to provide transparency may actually violate the Free Speech rights of individual donors and non-profit organizations. For more information about donor disclosure bills, check out the Donor Disclosure Legislative Toolkit.

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## Commercial Speech

### **Commercial Speech in New Jersey: Judge Grants a Preliminary Injunction Against the State's BYOB Advertising Ban on the Basis that it Constitutes a Content-Based Restriction**



*GJJM ENTERPRISES, LLC v. CITY OF ATLANTIC CITY et al.* tackles with the struggles businesses have advertising because of content-based advertising restrictions.

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## The Tale of Electronic Billboards, Beautiful Communities and the (Outdated) City Ordinance in Kenosha

Rex Davenport | *Kenosha News*



Every city council has to balance two very important issues: an aesthetically pleasing community and the ability for businesses to advertise and grow. [Read here to learn how the city of Kenosha, Wisconsin](#) is trying to strike the right balance to protect commercial speech and a beautiful city.

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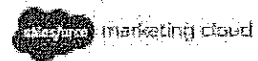


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**PRESS RELEASE**

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## Advocates call for policies that support Ohio's workers

**Contact:** [Hannah Halbert](#)  
**614.221.4505**

Later this month, the U.S. Supreme Court will hear Janus v. AFSCME, which threatens the ability of unions to collect fair share fees. Ohio legislators also recently unveiled a slate of proposals designed to give more power to corporations at the expense of workers, including so-called "right to work" legislation, which could greatly reduce the power of Ohio's unions. With working people facing threats at state and national levels, Policy Matters Ohio joined ProgressOhio to unveil a new policy brief, "A way forward: 10 ways to support Ohio's working people."

"So-called 'Right-to-Work' legislation and related judicial attacks like the pending Janus case don't address these real struggles of working people," Policy Matters Researcher Hannah Halbert said. "Unionized workers in Ohio make \$4 an hour more than their non-union counterparts, \$8,000 more a year for full-time work. Union workers are more likely to have pensions and paid sick days, and less likely to be treated unfairly at work or experience harassment or workplace injuries."

Cincinnati fire fighter and Ohio Association of Professional Fire Fighters Communications Director Doug Stern said so-called right-to-work laws not only chip away at the fabric of unions, but can make communities less safe.

"Attacks like these on working people and unions are attacks on fire fighters, police officers and all first responders, he said. "Our fire fighters and police officers deserve the right to collectively bargain so that we can effectively advocate for the training and equipment that keep our communities safe."

For decades, state and federal policymakers have chipped away at worker protections. As a result, Ohio's job growth has been weak and the state's wealthiest 1 percent earned more than 19 times the average of the bottom 99 percent of earners combined.

"The decline of unions has significantly contributed to the decline of the middle class as wages have remained stagnant and workers are getting a smaller and smaller share of income," said Wright State University Economics Professor Rudy Fichtenbaum. "Attacks on unions are not about increasing job growth; they're about corporations and the political elite gaining power over workers."

Policy Matters calls for the policymakers to protect workers' right to organize, as well as strengthen the public sector, raise the minimum wage, restore the 40-hour work week, fix Ohio's broken unemployment compensation system and more.

**[See the press conference on Facebook Live.](#)**

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**[See the press conference on Facebook Live.](#)**

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Akron prepares for a possible loss in court against the state (Akron Beacon Journal, 2/14/2018)

Ohio Supreme Court hears arguments in online charter school case (Associated Press, 2/14/2018)

Report: Fertilizer, manure top Lake Erie phosphorus sources (Associated Press, 2/14/2018)

Source: Pillich to leave governor's race, back Cordray (Associated Press, 2/14/2018)

**Portman 'shocked' ex-aide accused of abuse (Cincinnati Enquirer, 2/14/2018)**

**Sole female Dem in gubernatorial race to quit (Cincinnati Enquirer, 2/14/2018)**

**Connie Pillich expected to drop out of the governor's race (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/14/2018)**

**Lawmakers must rewrite Ohio bill to reflect new federal tax rules (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/14/2018)**

**Ohio's charter school quality crackdown claims a big-city victim - the Cincinnati school district (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/14/2018)**

**Skill games to be regulated by Ohio Casino Control Commission (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/14/2018)**

**Chief justice to ECOT attorney: 'How is that not absurd?' (Columbus Dispatch, 2/14/2018)**

**Kasich chosen to address graduates of Kennedy School in May (Columbus Dispatch, 2/14/2018)**

**New report from pro-labor group pans right-to-work proposals (Columbus Dispatch, 2/14/2018)**

**Ohio wants to require those on Medicaid to get a job (Columbus Dispatch, 2/14/2018)**

**Pillich to leave race for governor, back Cordray (Columbus Dispatch, 2/14/2018)**

**Podcast: A discussion with gubernatorial candidate William O'Neill (Columbus Dispatch, 2/14/2018)**

**Portman shocked at allegations of abuse by former aide (Columbus Dispatch, 2/14/2018)**

**President Trump jokes with Sherrod Brown on DACA (Columbus Dispatch, 2/14/2018)**

**Ohio considers raising child marriage age after DDN investigation (Dayton Daily News, 2/14/2018)**

**Portman's vetting of staffer didn't turn up complaints of wife abuse (Dayton Daily News, 2/14/2018)**

**Vicious dogs: Ohio moves to change laws on dog owners (Dayton Daily News, 2/14/2018)**

**ECOT asks high court to restore its funding (Toledo Blade, 2/14/2018)**

**Toledo's only abortion clinic now in time race to get transfer agreement signed (Toledo Blade, 2/14/2018)**

## **EDITORIALS**

**Unconscionable failure by Ohio Justices O'Donnell, DeWine to recuse in ECOT case after taking thousands in campaign dollars: editorial (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/14/2018)**

**Great Lakes once again in budget crosshairs (Toledo Blade, 2/14/2018)**

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**From:** Rep88  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 14, 2018 5:16 PM  
**To:** Reineke, Bill  
**CC:** 'Bill Reineke'  
**Subject:** FW: Agenda for tomorrow's School Funding Workgroup Meeting  
**Attachments:** Agenda 2-15-2017.pdf; ATT00001.htm

See below/attached.

---

**From:** Barb Adams [mailto:badams@bettsassociates.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 14, 2018 5:05 PM  
**To:** Jerome Brockway <jerome.brockway@atech.edu>; Jared Bunting <jared.bunting@trimblelocalschools.org>; Herringshaw Carrie <cherringshaw@pentacc.org>; Michael Hanlon <michael.hanlon@chardonschools.org>; Tom Hosler <tom@perrysburgschools.net>; Cajon Keeton <ckeeton@bccsd.com>; Kevin Lillie <kevin.lillie@genevaschools.org>; Jenni Logan <jenni.logan@lakotaonline.com>; Stephen McAfee <mcafees@wcsrams.org>; Ryan Pendleton <rpendlet@apslearns.org>; Scot Prebles <scotprebles@foresthills.edu>; Mary Ronan <ronanmary17@gmail.com>; Dalton Summers <dalton.summers@rvbears.org>; Michael Tefs <wstr\_mtefs@woostercityschools.org>; Douglas Ute <dute@laca.org>; Claudia Zaler <claudia.zaler@waverlytigers.net>  
**Cc:** Cupp, Bob <Bob.Cupp@ohiohouse.gov>; John Patterson <johnpattersonhd99@gmail.com>; Guzman, Angel <Angel.Guzman@ohiohouse.gov>; Hinman, Will <Will.Hinman@ohiohouse.gov>; Derksen, Nick <Nick.Derksen@ohiohouse.gov>; Teresa Porter <educationworks@suddenlink.net>; Aaron Rausch <aaron.rausch@education.ohio.gov>; Rep89 <Rep89@ohiohouse.gov>; Boggs, Kristin <Kristin.Boggs@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep67 <Rep67@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep68 <Rep68@ohiohouse.gov>; Tavia Galonski <Jtb1666@aol.com>; Hambley, Steve <Steve.Hambley@ohiohouse.gov>; Brigid Kelly <brigidkelly24@gmail.com>; LaTourette, Sarah <Sarah.LaTourette@ohiohouse.gov>; Adam C. Miller <amiller@taftlaw.com>; Mike O'Brien <mobrien0618@aol.com>; Rep88 <Rep88@ohiohouse.gov>; Rogers, John <John.Rogers@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep02 <Rep02@ohiohouse.gov>; Scott Ryan <ryan.71st@gmail.com>; Rep92 <Rep92@ohiohouse.gov>; Babcock, Douglas <Douglas.Babcock@ohiohouse.gov>; Belden, Michael <Michael.Belden@ohiohouse.gov>; Finlay, Serena <Serena.Finlay@ohiohouse.gov>; Hartman, Sarah <Sarah.Hartman@ohiohouse.gov>; Jacob, Abe <Abe.Jacob@ohiohouse.gov>; Lane, Hope <Hope.Lane@ohiohouse.gov>; Lawlor, Allison <Allison.Lawlor@ohiohouse.gov>; McCoy, Amanda <Amanda.McCoy@ohiohouse.gov>; Pelino, Anita <Anita.Pelino@ohiohouse.gov>; Price, Ciara <Ciara.Price@ohiohouse.gov>; Sgraves, Brandon <Brandon.Sgraves@ohiohouse.gov>; Sandin, Bailey <Bailey.Sandin@ohiohouse.gov>; Turk, Ellen <Ellen.Turk@ohiohouse.gov>; Tom Ash <ash@basa-ohio.org>; Dave Axner <axner@basa-ohio.org>; Matt Bunting <mbunting@athenscsd.org>; Craig Burford



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**Subject:** Agenda for tomorrow's School Funding Workgroup Meeting

Attached is the agenda for tomorrow's Ohio House School Funding Workgroup Meeting at 10 am in Room 1948 in the Riffe Center.

## OHIO HOUSE SCHOOL FUNDING WORKGROUP

February 15, 2018  
10:00 a.m., Room 1948  
Verne Riffe Center  
77 S. High St., Columbus, OH 43215

- I. Convene
- II. Self Introductions
- III. Announcements From the Co-Chairs
- IV. SUBGROUP REPORTS
  - A. **Open Enrollment, Funding Charter Schools, Vouchers**  
Scot Prebles – Superintendent, Forest Hills Local Schools  
Steve McAfee – Treasurer, Whitehall City Schools
  - B. **Poverty, Preschool**  
Doug Ute – Superintendent, Newark City Schools  
Claudia Zaler – Treasurer, Waverley Local Schools
  - C. **Transportation**  
Dalton Summers – Superintendent, River View Local Schools (Coshocton)  
Kevin Lillie – Treasure, Geneva Area City Schools
  - D. **Special Education, Gifted, ELL**  
Mary Ronan – Former Superintendent, Cincinnati City Schools  
Jenni Logan – Treasurer, Lakota Local Schools (Butler)
  - E. **ESC's, CTC's, STEM**  
Jerome Brockway – Superintendent, Ashtabula County CTC; former Superintendent, Ashtabula County ESC  
Carrie Herringshaw - Treasurer, PENTA CTC
  - F. **Technology**  
Michael Tefs - Superintendent, Wooster City Schools  
Cajon Keeton – Treasurer, Benton-Carroll-Salem Local Schools
  - G. **Distribution**  
Michael Hanlon – Chardon Local Schools  
Jared Bunting – Trimble Local Schools
- V. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION REGARDING PROPOSED STRUCTURE FOR DEVELOPING NEW BASE COST– **Base Cost Subgroup**
  - Tom Hosler – Superintendent, Perrysburg Exempted Village Schools
  - Ryan Pendleton – Treasurer, Akron City Schools
  - Participants: *Moderator, Tom Hosler*  
Superintendents Ronan, Ute, Brockway, Prebles, Summers, Tefs, Hanlon

*Page 2*

Joe Regano, Superintendent, Solon City Schools  
Brenda Boeke, Superintendent, Minster Local Schools  
Julie Davis, Executive Director, Ohio Association of Elementary School  
Administrators  
Mike Freeman, Associate Director, Ohio Association of Secondary School  
Administrators

VI. Discussion

VII. Announcements

VIII. Adjourn

Barbara Adams  
Betts & Associates, Inc.  
Ph: 614.929.8979  
[badams@bettsassociates.com](mailto:badams@bettsassociates.com)

**From:** Ohio Arts Council

**Sent:** Thursday, February 15, 2018 12:05 PM

**To:** Rep88

**Subject:** February | Updates on the NEA's budget, Ohio Arts Council grant deadline reminders & more

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Keep up to date on Ohio Arts Council news, grant deadlines, and more.

[View this email in your browser](#)

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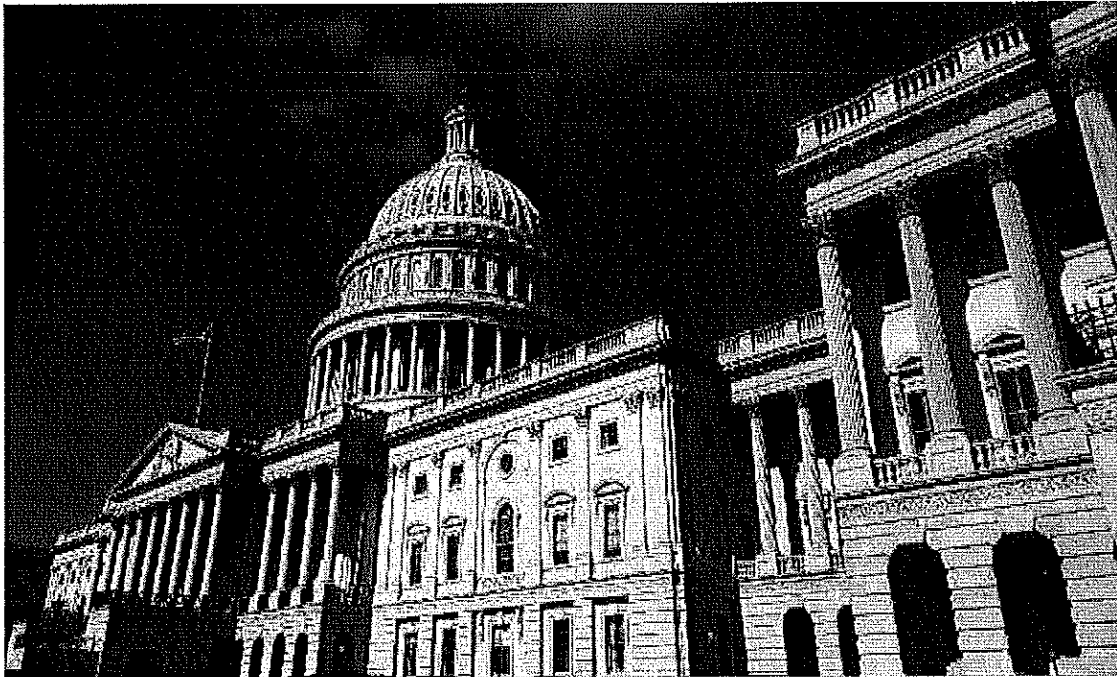
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**UPDATE ON THE NEA'S BUDGET**

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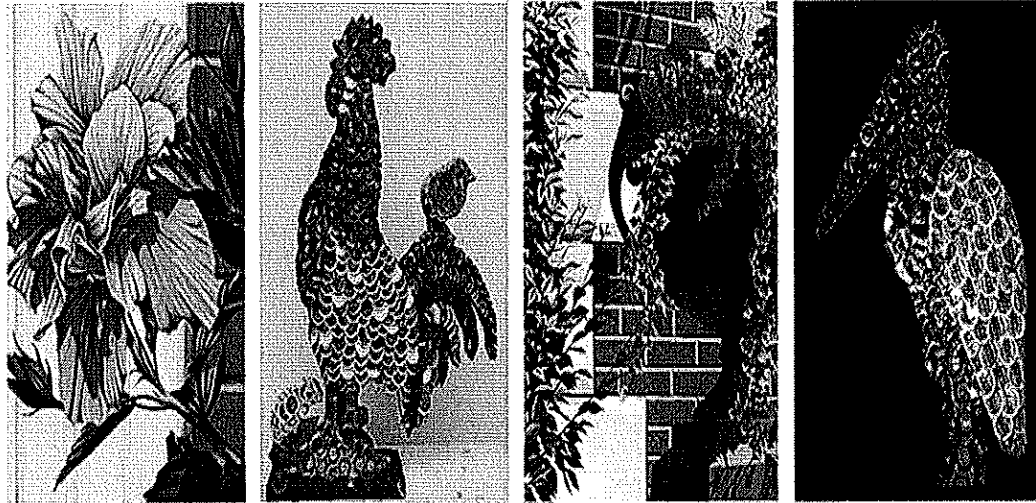
In this month's Message from the Executive Director, Donna S. Collins provides an update on the budget process for federal Fiscal Year 2019.

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[READ DONNA'S MESSAGE](#)

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**NORTH CANTON, ZANESVILLE ARTISTS' WORK  
FEATURED AT THE OHIO GOVERNOR'S RESIDENCE  
THROUGH MARCH**



As part of the newest "Spotlight: Featured Artists at the Ohio Governor's Residence" exhibition, artwork by Diane Belfiglio of North Canton and John Taylor-Lehman of Zanesville will be displayed at the Governor's Residence in Bexley through March. Both artists were selected by Ohio's First Lady Karen W. Kasich with the assistance of the Ohio Arts Council.

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READ MORE

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**National  
Endowment  
for the Arts**  
arts.gov

## **NEA AWARDS MORE THAN \$520K TO OHIO ORGANIZATIONS**

Twenty-six Ohio organizations have received grant awards through the National Endowment for the Arts' Art Works and Challenge America programs. Ohio nonprofits will receive a total of \$521,000 through the NEA's first round of federal Fiscal Year 2018 funding.

[READ MORE](#)



## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DONNA S. COLLINS AWARDED DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

Ohio Arts Council Executive Director Donna S. Collins received the Ohio Music Education Association's Distinguished Service Award at a ceremony on Feb. 9 in Columbus.

[READ MORE](#)



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## OHIO ARTIST LEAH WONG RE-EXAMINES HER ROOTS

"I was supposed to have a painting, but I didn't have any painting."

Ohio artist Leah Wong discusses her journey in search of artistic inspiration and how it led her to the OAC's collaborative residency with the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, Massachusetts.

[READ MORE](#)



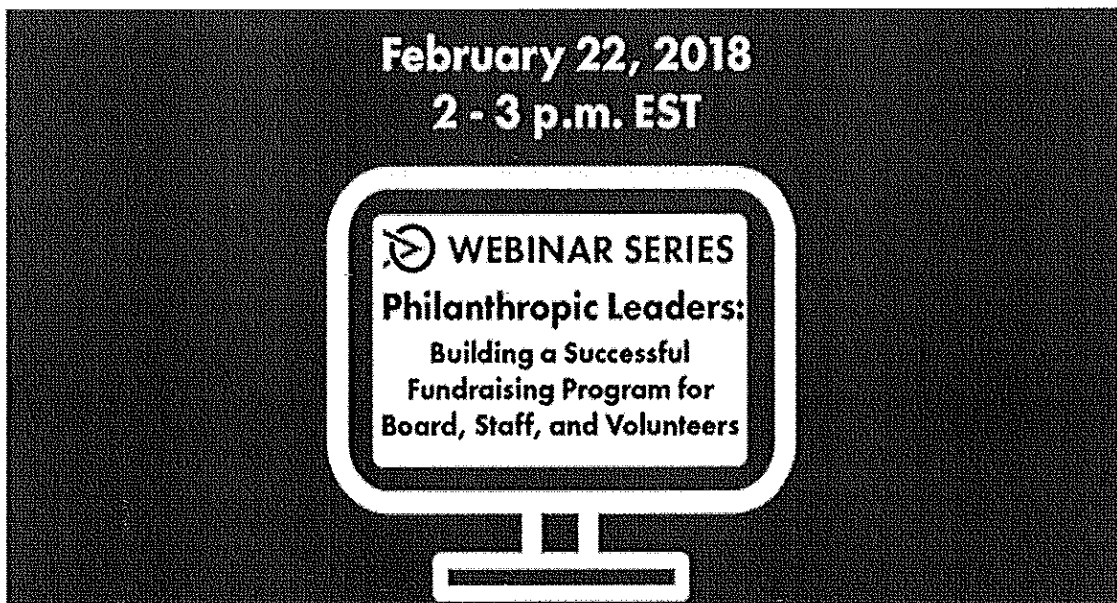
## MEET DAN KATONA, DEPUTY DIRECTOR

A parody songwriter on the weekends, Ohio native, and traveler, the OAC's Deputy Director Dan Katona can only be described as one color: teal. "Because it's a little bit of this and a little bit of that," he says. You can find Dan in his office, where he proudly displays his three daughters' artwork and writes some pretty interesting

emails.

[READ MORE](#)

## REGISTER TODAY FOR OUR FEBRUARY FUNDRAISING WEBINAR



**THURSDAY, FEB. 22, 2018, 2-3 p.m. EST:** Tune in to this FREE webinar led by Stacey Anderson, senior advisor at Aly Sterling Philanthropy, to learn more about fundraising program development for your organization.

[Click here](#) to watch a preview video about webinar. To register, click the button below.

**REGISTER HERE**

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**Art & Accessibility Tip #6: Sign up for an Accessibility Online session**

The Ohio Arts Council believes that everyone has the right of equal access to the arts. Each month, the ArtsOhio newsletter includes an accessibility tip for arts organizations. For additional accessibility resources, visit [oac.ohio.gov/About/About-the-Council/Accessibility](http://oac.ohio.gov/About/About-the-Council/Accessibility).

Did you know you can register for free accessibility training? Go to the Great Lakes ADA Center at [accessibilityonline.org/ao](http://accessibilityonline.org/ao) to read more and register today.

For more information about making your arts programming accessible, contact your Ohio Arts Council program coordinator at [oac.ohio.gov/About/Staff-Directory](http://oac.ohio.gov/About/Staff-Directory), including OAC Accessibility Coordinator Kim Turner at [kim.turner@oac.ohio.gov](mailto:kim.turner@oac.ohio.gov).

## HAPPENING AT THE RIFFE GALLERY

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ON VIEW



QUILT NATIONAL 2017  
January 25 - April 14, 2018

Produced by the Dairy Barn Arts Center in Athens, Ohio, *Quilt National 2017* is the 20th

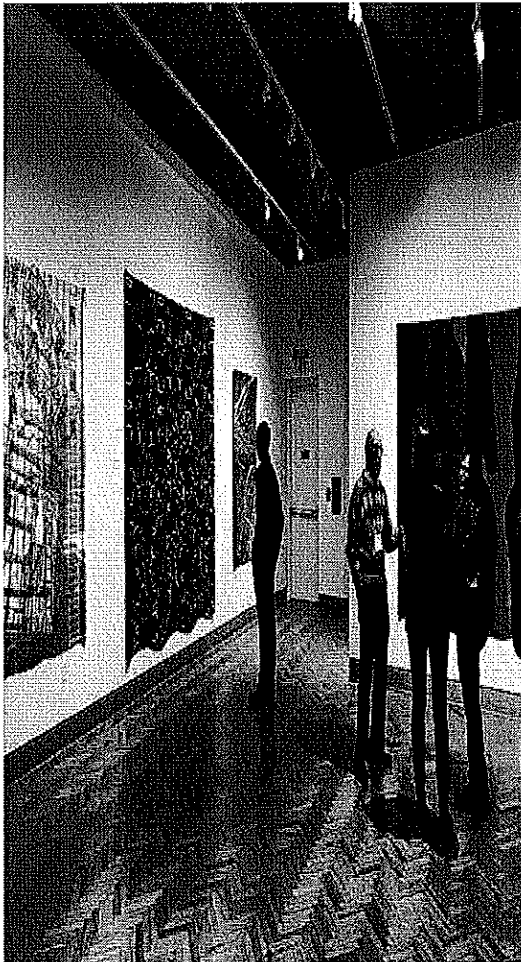
biennial international juried art quilt competition dedicated to the promotion of the contemporary art quilt. Its focus is to provide the viewer with a visual presentation of innovative trends in the medium of layered and stitched fabric. Artworks were selected by jurors Nancy Crow, Petra Fallaux, and Art Martin. The OAC Riffe Gallery will feature approximately 34 quilts by 34 artists from the original exhibition.

[Read more about the free events and programming scheduled for the OAC Riffe Gallery's Quilt National 2017 exhibition.](#)

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## PIECING IT TOGETHER: THE RIFFE GALLERY HOSTS QUILT NATIONALS

Quilt National 2017 marks the 20th biennial and continues to be enthusiastically dedicated to the promotion of the contemporary art quilt, providing the viewer a visual presentation of innovative trends in the medium of layered and stitched fabric.

[READ MORE](#)

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FOR ORGANIZATIONS | Grants & Opportunities

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### **MARCH 1: ArtsNEXT Grant Deadline**

The ArtsNEXT program provides competitive funding for innovative and experimental projects. Awards support big ideas that push boundaries, engage participants in unexpected ways, pilot new solutions to challenging problems, improve program design with calculated risk-taking, or result in the creation of new work. These forward-looking projects help define Ohio as an exciting, cutting-edge place to make, consume, and experience the arts.

Applicants may generally request between \$5,000 and \$20,000, though larger awards are possible in unique circumstances. All awards require a 1:1 cash match. [More information and grant guidelines](#) are available on the Ohio Arts Council website.

**CONTACT:** Brianna Dance, Organizational Programs Coordinator, [brianna.dance@oac.ohio.gov](mailto:brianna.dance@oac.ohio.gov) and Jim Szekacs, Organizational Programs Coordinator, [jim.szekacs@oac.ohio.gov](mailto:jim.szekacs@oac.ohio.gov)

**FOR ARTISTS | Grants & Opportunities**

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### **FEBRUARY 23: Call for Artists - Submissions Due**

The OAC is seeking women artists who are serving or have served in the military and who currently live in Ohio. Artists who work in painting, drawing, mixed media, and sculpture are eligible to participate in this exhibition which will specifically feature the works by women artists who are serving or have served in the armed forces.

This exhibition is part of a larger ongoing program, "Spotlight: Featured Artists at the Ohio Governor's Residence," which was developed by Ohio's First Lady Karen W. Kasich in collaboration with the OAC. This special exhibition, *2018 Artists' Spotlight: Works by Ohio's Military Women at the Ohio Governor's Residence*, celebrates works created by women veterans and current service members while helping to support and recognize their artistic accomplishments and their service in the military. [More information is available on the Ohio Arts Council website.](#)

**CONTACT:** Kathy Signorino, Artist Programs Coordinator, [kathy.signorino@oac.ohio.gov](mailto:kathy.signorino@oac.ohio.gov)



### **MARCH 15: Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Grant Deadline**

The Traditional Arts Apprenticeship program provides support for master artists to work with apprentices to build understanding and proficiency in folk and traditional art forms. By pairing exemplary practitioners of traditional art forms with dedicated apprentices, this program allows for concentrated study and cultural exchange. Traditional Arts Apprenticeship awards support the teaching and sharing of important cultural traditions, and enrich the lives of people throughout the state.

Master artists may request up to \$4,000 to work with one, and if appropriate, two, apprentices. At least 50 percent of the request must be used for master artist honoraria. No match is required. [More information and grant guidelines are available on the Ohio Arts Council website.](#)

**CONTACT:** Kathy Signorino, Artist Programs Coordinator, [kathy.signorino@oac.ohio.gov](mailto:kathy.signorino@oac.ohio.gov)

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*Image credits: 1) Photo courtesy of Pixabay, by user MotionStudios; 2) Artwork L-R: Diane Belfiglio, Opus in Orange, 2010, Oil Pastel on Paper, 19 1/2" x 15"; John Taylor-Lehman, Chick Magnet, 2017, Beer caps on scrap wood, 24" x 17" x 2"; Diane Belfiglio, Roman Urn, 1999, Acrylic on canvas, 50" x 30"; John Taylor-Lehman, Jabiru, 2015, Beer caps on scrap wood, 18" x 13" x 2"; 3) National Endowment for the Arts logo, Image Credit: NEA; 4) Ohio Arts Council Executive Director Donna S. Collins, Photo Credit: Ohio Arts Council; 5) Leah Wong, Photo Credit: Courtesy of Leah Wong; 6) Meet the Staff graphic, Image Credit: Ohio Arts Council; 7) February webinar graphic, Image Credit: Ohio Arts Council; 8) Art & Accessibility Graphic, Image Credit: Ohio Arts Council; 9) Quilt National 2017 postcard, Image Credit: Rosemary Hoffenberg, Regatta, 2016, cotton, thread, natural batting, 43" x 38"; 10) Quilt National '17, Photo courtesy of the Ohio Arts Council's Riffe Gallery*

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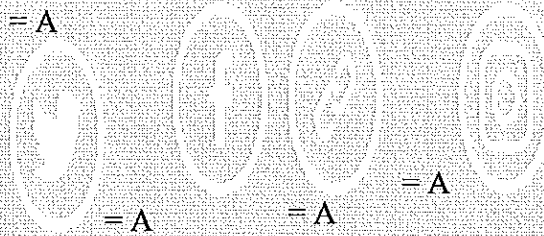
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**From:** The Aerospace States Association Briefing  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 20, 2018 8:00 AM  
**To:** Rep88  
**Subject:** Feb. 20: NASA Officials To Highlight Alabama's Role In Space Program During ASA's Alabama Aerospace Week

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## The Aerospace States Association BRIEFING

In affiliation with



Good morning Bill Reineke

February 20, 2018

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## ASA IN THE NEWS

### NASA Officials To Highlight Alabama's Role In Space Program During ASA's Alabama Aerospace Week.

The Florence (AL) Times Daily (2/16, Corey) reported that NASA officials from Huntsville's NASA officials from Huntsville's Marshall Space Flight Center will "travel to Montgomery on Thursday to spread the word about the importance of the state's role in leading America back to the moon and on to Mars during the Aerospace States Association's Alabama Aerospace Week." Marshall leaders will meet with "elected officials and NASA will be honored by the Legislature with a resolution and proclamation from Gov. Kay Ivey recognizing the agency's achievements."

PRNewswire (2/16) reported the event will take place Thursday, February 22. Marshall Center Director Todd May and "NASA astronaut Tracy Dyson speak at 1 p.m. CST, at Alabama State University's Ralph D. Abernathy College of Education's auditorium, which will be hosted by ASU's President, Dr. Quinton T. Ross, Jr."

## POLICY NEWS - STATE

## Port Authority Authorizes Name Change, Expansion For New York's Stewart International Airport.

USA Today (2/19, Wilson) reports that Stewart International Airport in New York may soon undergo a name change and \$30 million expansion. The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey authorized the changes on Thursday. The proposed project will "expand the terminal by 19,850 square feet, adding a customs inspection area to accommodate domestic and international passengers simultaneously at the Hudson Valley airport." Currently, the airport lacks a "dedicated area to process international travelers." The airport would be renamed New York International at Stewart Field, with completion of the project anticipated for 2020. Global Gateway Alliance Chairman Joseph Sitt praised the proposal for its potential to alleviate congestion at New York's airports, which he said will not "change without new capacity," which he said will come through "proposals like the Stewart International Airport expansion along with better transportation, a real and sustained commitment to marketing, and, most of all, more flights and services to attract passengers."

### FROM ASA



#### Alabama Aerospace Week 2018

**Tuesday, February 20, 2018**

6:00pm - 7:30pm Joint Reception with the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce- Renaissance Hotel, Montgomery Performing Arts Center Atrium

**Wednesday, February 21, 2018**

6:00pm - 8:00pm NASA/Legislative Reception- Irish Bred Pub

**Thursday (NASA DAY), February 22, 2018**

8:30am - 2:00pm Exhibits on Washington Street

Connect with ASA:



## POLICY NEWS - FEDERAL

### Justice Department Charges Three Men With Providing UAV Parts To Hezbollah.

Reuters (2/16) reported that the Justice Department announced Friday that authorities "have charged three men with illegally exporting drone parts and other material from the United States to Lebanon's militant Hezbollah group." Two of the suspects, Usama Darwich Hamade and Issam Darwich Hamade, "were in custody in South Africa," while the third, Samir Ahmed Berro, "remained at large." 0

## **ALPA, NATCA, A4A Urge Congress To Tighten UAV Regulations.**

Air Transport World (2/17, Carey) reported that the Air Line Pilots Association, the National Air Traffic Controllers Association, and the trade group Airlines for America have all "asked Congress to amend Section 336 of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012." In a letter from February 13 signed by leaders from all three groups, the stakeholders say Section 336, which blocks FAA from passing regulations on model aircraft flown recreationally, "has limited the FAA's ability to fully regulate model and hobby UAS to the point that safety of the national airspace is at risk." The letter cited a video "that shows a Frontier Airlines Airbus A320 passing underneath an apparent drone while on approach to Las Vegas McCarran International Airport" in clear violation of FAA guidelines for UAV operators.

## **AVIATION**

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### **Helicopter Crash May Be First Aircraft Collision Linked To UAV.**

Bloomberg News (2/16, Levin) reported that the crash landing of a helicopter in South Carolina last week "may have been triggered by a civilian drone, which would make it the first drone-related crash of an aircraft in the US." The incident occurred last Wednesday and involved a student pilot and instructor, "both of whom told investigators that a small drone appeared directly in front of them, according to a Charleston Police Department report." The instructor took over the controls and attempted to avoid a collision, during which the tail of the helicopter "hit a tree or brush, triggering a crash landing." The FAA has not confirmed the "possible role of the drone," but the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is "aware of initial reports that a drone may have been involved in the crash and is gathering information on the case, spokesman Chris O'Neil said in an email Thursday. 30

### **Israel Successfully Tests Arrow-3 Missile Defense System.**

The AP (2/19) reports that Israel has announced it has successfully tested an advanced missile defense system with the capability of defending the country against ballistic missile threats. The Israeli Defense Ministry called Monday's test of the Arrow-3 interceptor a "major milestone" in Israel's development of missile defense systems to guard "against current and future threats in the region." Two previous tests of the system were recently delayed. Arrow-3, developed by The Boeing Company and Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI), is part of a "multi-layered system" Israel is developing to "defend against both short- and mid-range rockets fired from the Gaza Strip and Lebanon, as well as Iran's long-range missiles." Other components in the system include the Iron Dome, David's Sling, and Arrow-2 systems.

### **FAA Awards Boeing 787-10 Production Certificate.**

FlightGlobal (2/16) reported that the FAA had awarded The Boeing Company a "production certificate for the 787-10 on 15 February, the manufacturer says." The approval means that Boeing is officially authorized to produce the new 330-seat airliner. Boeing plans to deliver the initial 787-10 to Singapore Airlines this March.

### **Gulfstream To Build Service Center At Appleton Airport.**

The AP (2/16) reported that Gulfstream Aerospace will expand its operations at Appleton International Airport, building a new \$40 million service center that is expected to add 200 jobs. WLUK-TV reported that "groundbreaking is scheduled for later this year, with the building opening in mid-2019."

Reuters (2/16) reported that the new facility is expected to begin operations in the second quarter of 2019.

### **FAA Approves Boeing 737 MAX-9 For Commercial Service.**

Reuters (2/16, Banerjee) reported that The Boeing Company "said on Friday the US Federal Aviation Administration had officially certified its 737 MAX-9 aircraft for commercial service." The approval "affirms the airplane's handling, systems and overall performance all comply with required aviation regulations, Boeing said." Boeing is preparing the aircraft for its initial delivery to Lion Air Group.

### **GA-ASI Submits Stingray UAV For US Navy MQ-25 Contest.**

The Aviation International News (2/16, Pocock) reported that General Atomics Aeronautical Systems Inc. (GA-ASI) revealed in a "surprise announcement" that it had submitted a "new design named Stingray for the US Navy's MQ-25 unmanned tanker requirement." The company had previously indicated it would submit the Sea Avenger variant of its Predator C UAV for the bid. GA-ASI also released an "extensive list of partners in its bid, including Boeing, even though that company has made its own alternative bid for this requirement." Boeing's Autonomous Systems Division, which includes Insitu, is "playing an unspecified role in the GA-ASI bid." In a statement, the company claimed that its offering "exceeds all of the Navy's requirements, including carrier suitability...at the lowest technical and schedule risk."

### **Airbus To Reduce A380 Production To "Digestible" Six Aircraft Per Year.**

FlightGlobal (2/16, Gubisch) reported that Airbus plans to reduce production of its A380 jumbo jet to six aircraft a year by 2020 in a "bid to sustain its flagship programme while keeping losses from the aircraft's production" at a "digestible" level. Airbus plans to deliver 12 A380s this year, and will reduce production to eight aircraft in 2019. Airbus CEO Tom Enders said that the rate of six aircraft represents the "minimum" volume at which production could be maintained with a "reasonable level of efficiency." Enders added, "It doesn't mean we are still making money on that, but the losses that such a low rate would produce are certainly digestible." However, Enders said that this level of production represents "rock bottom, zero and is "clearly not where we want to leave it," and said that he anticipates additional A380 orders from existing or new operators.

### **Airbus: Initial Details Of Franco-German Fighter To Emerge Later In 2018.**

Reuters (2/16, Siebold) reported that the initial details of a "planned Franco-German program to develop a next-generation fighter jet should emerge in the second half of 2018, the head of Airbus's defense unit told Reuters on Friday. = 2 Dirk Hoke "said France and Germany would work out in coming months how to proceed with the program, including whether to bring in an additional partner country, such as Britain."

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### **Air France Reports Strong Earnings In Fourth Quarter.**

The Financial Times (2/16, White, Subscription Publication) reported that Air France-KLM reported strong passenger numbers and load factor in its fourth quarter earnings, but reported losses for the year due to a pension deal.

## SPACE

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### **Pence To Tour Kennedy Space Center, Lead National Space Council Meeting In Florida Visit.**

The Tampa Bay (FL) Times (2/19, Leary) reports that Vice President Pence will visit Florida on Tuesday and Wednesday to tour the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station launch facilities, participate in a commercial spaceflight federal reception, and head the second meeting of the National Space Council at NASA's Kennedy Space Center (KSC). The Wednesday meeting – titled "Moon, Mars, and Worlds Beyond: Winning the Next Frontier" – "will include testimonials from leaders in the civil, commercial, and national security sectors about the importance of the United States' space enterprise," according to a White House release. Pence then will tour KSC before departing.

The Washington Examiner (2/19, Giaritelli) reports that the names of the companies participating in the meeting "have not been released and the vice president's office did not respond to a request for comment."

***Industry Battles Over Hosting Reception For National Space Council.*** The Washington Post (2/16, Davenport) reported that after it became known that the Commercial Spaceflight Federation – of which SpaceX is a member – would host a reception for the second meeting of the National Space Council, Lockheed Martin and The Boeing Company "complained to the White House, which agreed that they, too, should host the reception." One industry official said that "we wanted to make sure the entirety of the industry was represented to the council and not just a subset." The event was intended to take place at the Kennedy Space Center (KSC) Visitor Complex, but as the event "grew in size," it is "now being hosted by the Aerospace Industries Association, the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics and the Coalition for Deep Space Exploration, as well as the Commercial Spaceflight Federation."

### **NASA Certifies SpaceX's Falcon 9 Rockets For Science Missions.**

SPACE (2/19, Foust) reports that NASA has certified the "current version of the SpaceX Falcon 9" to launch selected categories of science missions. NASA "disclosed the certification in its full fiscal year 2019 budget proposal, released Feb. 14, in a section about NASA's Launch Services Program (LSP)." The budget stated that SpaceX had successfully completed "Category 2" certification for the Falcon 9 "Full Thrust," which "supports the launch of the NASA Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS) mission in March 2018." NASA spokesperson Cheryl Warned confirmed Category 2 certification had been received for the rocket. Category 2 certification covers "medium risk" missions, and requires between one to three successful missions to qualify for the missions, "depending on the vehicle's heritage and level of NASA insight." The LSP is also conducting "preliminary activities" for certifying the Orbital ATK Antares launch vehicle, according to the documents. The program has also "started certification discussions regarding vehicles still in development, including Blue Origin's New Glenn, Orbital ATK's Next General Launch and United Launch Alliance's Vulcan."

### **Launch Of SpaceX Satellite Internet Payload Delayed To Wednesday.**

The AP (2/17) reported that a SpaceX satellite launch from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California has been delayed ~~to~~ due to the need for more inspections." A Falcon 9 rocket was originally intended to launch a payload of two SpaceX test satellites on Sunday evening, but the launch is now targeted for Wednesday.

CNBC (2/17, Sheetz) reported that the SpaceX Starlink constellation, if fully deployed, would become the largest current satellite network. The largest "existing constellation is built by Iridium, with the company halfway through launching its new 75 Iridium Next satellites to space, set to finish deployment in the next year." D The Starlink constellation is currently under consideration by the FCC.= A

The Washington Post (2/16, Fung) reported that the satellites are "part of a years-long plan by chief executive Elon Musk to create a fleet of orbiting devices to blanket the globe in wireless broadband connectivity." The satellites will use radio frequencies "known for their low-lag physical properties," in particular the Ka-, Ku- and V-bands, "with about 4,400 K-band satellites and more than 7,000 V-band satellites." The initial satellites in the network are expected to become operational next year.

### **Launch Of NASA'S TESS "Planet Hunter" Satellite Delayed.**

Florida Today (2/17, Dean) reported that the launch of NASA's Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS) satellite, which had been scheduled for March 20, has been delayed to no earlier than April 16 after launch provider SpaceX requested more time "for hardware readiness and to meet NASA launch service mission requirements." The mission must launch no later than June. TESS is designed to "discover thousands" of exoplanets, and will "scan an area of sky 350 times larger than that covered by NASA's Kepler and K2 missions that have confirmed roughly 2,500 exoplanets" in a mission lasting at least two years.

### **Astronauts Complete Repairs To ISS Robotic Arm.**

The AP (2/16, Dunn) reported that astronauts aboard the International Space Station (ISS) "wrapped up months of repair work Friday ~~to~~ and completed repairs on the space station's Canadian-built robotic arm, which had "both of its aging mechanical hands replaced on spacewalks conducted in October and January." The final spacewalk was delayed due to complications with the robotic hand installed in January. Ground controllers eventually solved the issues, but additional delays were caused by the arrival of a Russian cargo vessel. NASA astronaut Mark Vande Hei and Japanese astronaut Nirishige Kanai "accomplished their main objectives so fast that they had time to tackle extra chores," and were able to end their spacewalk early.

### **US Air Force, Aerojet Rocketdyne Renegotiating AR1 Agreement.**

Space News (2/16, Foust, Subscription Publication) reported that Aerojet Rocketdyne and the US Air Force are working to "revise an agreement to support development of the company's AR1 rocket engine, as questions continue about the engine's long-term future." In a February 14 statement, the Air Force Space and Missile Systems Center (SMC) "confirmed that Aerojet Rocketdyne is seeking to revise the Rocket Propulsion System (RPS) award the company received in 2016 to reduce the fraction of development costs the company has to pay." The award currently requires Aerojet Rocketdyne to assume a third of the costs related to the AR1 engine, and the company is seeking to reduce its share of the costs to one-sixth, according to the SMC. In its response, the SMC said that the "Air Force has gained the necessary approvals to do so, if a mutually beneficial arrangement can be reached with Aerojet



Rocketdyne, = 2 and added that the two sides "working very hard to find closure on a restructured agreement." The SMC said that any renegotiation would "still require the AR1 to be completed by the end of 2019."

### **JSC Director: One-Third Chance Next Astronaut On The Moon May Be A Woman.**

The Guardian (UK) (2/17, Davis) reported that NASA Johnson Space Center (JSC) Director Ellen Ochoa said that there is at least a one in three chance that the first person to step foot on the moon this century will be a woman. Ochoa explained, "About a third of our active astronauts are women, so chances are at least a third."

### **KSC Visitor Center To Display Falcon Heavy Side Core Through Tuesday.**

Florida Today (2/19, Kelly) reports that one of the side cores launched on SpaceX's first Falcon Heavy rocket will be on display at the space shuttle Atlantis exhibit at the Kennedy Space Center (KSC) Visitor Complex through Tuesday.

## **MANUFACTURING**

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### **Global Dividends Reached Record \$1.25T In 2017.**

Reuters (2/19, Masoni) reports that the investment firm Janus Henderson announced Monday that "global dividends rose 7.7 percent to an all-time high of \$1.25 trillion (1 trillion euros) last year boosted by a buoyant world economy and rising corporate confidence." The firm said that the dividend increase – "the strongest since 2014 – was driven by increases in every region and almost every industry with record showings in 11 countries including the United States, Japan, Switzerland, Hong Kong, Taiwan and the Netherlands, the investment manager added." In 2018, Janus Henderson "expects dividends to keep the same 7.7 percent growth rate to reach around \$1.35 trillion, as corporate and economic growth remains strong even in more volatile financial markets." 30 Director of Global Equity Income Ben Lofthouse is quoted saying, 30 Companies are seeing rising profits and healthy cash flows, and that's enabling them to fund generous dividends. The record payout last year was almost three-quarters higher than in 2009, and there is more to come."

## **STEM EDUCATION**

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### **Reaching Out To Young People Helps To Build Interest In "Smart Manufacturing."**

Advanced Manufacturing (2/15) reported that rather than continuing to "bemoan the problem" 30 of a lack of skilled workers, "manufacturers are taking a multi-faceted approach to bridge the gap – not only for next year but also for 15 years down the road." One part of the solution is "reaching out to children as young as nine to build excitement and get the next generation interested in smart manufacturing." Rockwell Automation Global STEM Ambassador Jay Flores was quoted saying, "At a young age, students are curious. They're asking questions. They haven't yet said, 'I'm not a math person,' so we want to get them before they have those doubts or they lose that passion for learning and curiosity." In addition, "manufacturers also are offering scholarships and apprenticeships," while 7 Companies are providing on-the-job training and education reimbursements to deepen and broaden their skills."

Separately, [The Hill](#) (2/15, Milliken) reported on a hearing in the House Science, Space and Technology Committee on Thursday that focused on "new programs to help boost the number of science and technology workers in the US." The Hill added that "the Science committee's subcommittee on research and technology heard from educators who highlighted vocational training programs, two-year degrees and community colleges to help fill the gap."

***Manufacturing Institute's Lee: US Not Producing Enough Workers To Fill Coming Jobs.*** [The Hill](#) (2/13, Wilson) reported on the various efforts to combat the "skills gap" in the US workforce, writing that "economists, demographers and political leaders are increasingly concerned that the next generation of workers won't be ready to fill millions of new jobs across the country." It added that "the combination of a generational sea change in the workforce and a technological revolution in the economy is conspiring to create a skills gap that could leave jobs unfilled."

## FRIDAY'S LEAD STORIES

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- **New Mexico Legislature Passes Bill Increasing Confidentiality For Spaceport America Tenants.**
- **Airlines, Pilots, Air Traffic Controllers Urge Congress To Allow UAV Regulations.**
- **Delta Will Buy Bombardier CSeries Jets This Year.**
- **Richard Branson Admits To Jealousy Of Successful Falcon Heavy Launch.**
- **Federal Reserve: Industrial Production Fell 0.1% In January.**

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**To:** Rep88  
**Subject:** Employee Freedom on Trial Monday

**MEDIA ADVISORY**

Friday, February 22, 2018



**CONTACT**

Christina Mazzanti, Dir., Communications  
christina@edreform.com  
(202) 750-0016

## **Monday: US Supreme Court hears arguments on worker freedom**

*Janus v. AFSCME decision, whether favorable or not, will have wide-ranging implications for public-sector union employees and education at large*

(Washington, D.C.) - On Monday the U.S. Supreme Court hears oral arguments in *Janus v. AFSCME*. The significance of this case cannot be overstated; the decision could potentially restore the freedom of public employees to choose how they want their hard-earned paychecks spent, and might put decisions about voluntary union membership back into the hands of the employees themselves.

According to the Manhattan Institute, the decision can affect 5 million public workers across 22 states including California, Illinois, and New York.

The case results will also have implications for the quality of education we deliver to our children. The teachers unions fight hard to protect mediocrity, even in failing schools, and support policies that keep ineffective teachers in the classroom, a taken-for-granted practice which in turn discourages more quality entrants to the profession.

Union demands for teachers to all behave and comply with fixed rules about how schools are run stifle innovation.

The largest teachers unions in the U.S., the National Education Association and the American Federation of Teachers, are also among the largest political donors of all time, together spending the second most in political donations nationally. Many of the policies and politicians they support, and programs they seek to have implemented prevent children from escaping failing schools and deny parents their due power to determine which education best meets the needs of their children.

Leaders on both sides of the argument will be at the Supreme Court Monday. CER and its leadership will be on site to arrange interviews, and CER Founder & CEO Jeanne Allen will be available for comment. For more, contact Christina Mazzanti at (202) 750-0016 or christina@edreform.com, and for information on location

Monday contact Patrick Korten at (202) 288-4307 or  
[patrick.korten@kortenmedia.com](mailto:patrick.korten@kortenmedia.com).

###

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Founded in 1993, the Center for Education Reform aims to expand educational opportunities that lead to improved economic outcomes for all Americans — particularly our youth — ensuring that conditions are ripe for innovation, freedom and flexibility throughout U.S. education.

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**To:** Rep88  
**Subject:** Please pass HB160 out of committee

Bill Reineke,

I was born and raised in Kenton, Ohio and my family still lives there. I am in Washington D.C. currently furthering my education working on a graduate degree, hopeful that what I learn will not only be useful in my future career endeavors but that I will be able to utilize my experience in my home state.

As an out transgender person my rights for employment and housing are protected here in Washington D.C. and it is a shame that Ohioans are not afforded the same right as those in our nations capitol. HB160 solves that discrepancy and makes Ohio a viable choice as a place to live and advance careers for people like me.

I hope someday I can move back to my home community with the confidence that I will be afforded protections from discrimination based on my gender identity and expression. HB160 is a great start to building that confidence.

When given the opportunity, please vote YES on HB160, The Ohio Fairness Act, all Ohioans deserve the right to work and live in the great state we were raised in.

Sincerely,  
Keygan D. Miller

K.D. Miller  
kdmiller88@gmail.com

Kenton, Ohio 43326

**From:** The Buckeye Institute

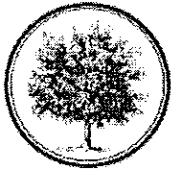
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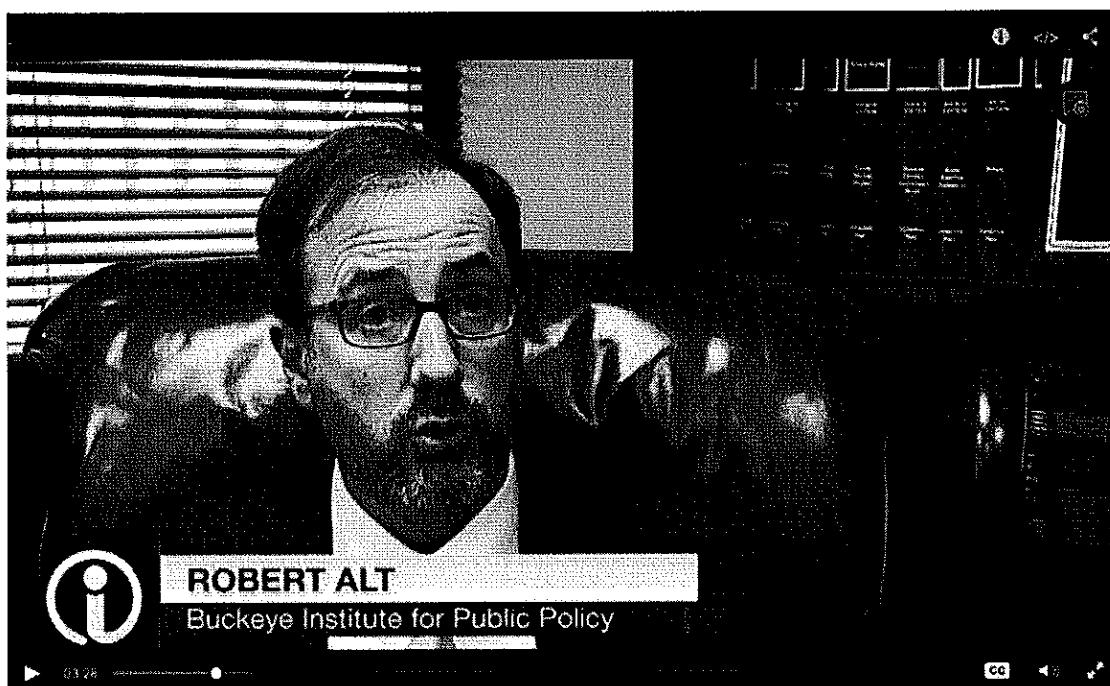
### **Buckeye's Robert Alt Sat Down with IdeaStream's Ashton Marra to Discuss Janus v. AFSCME**

The Buckeye Institute's president and CEO Robert Alt, talked to IdeaStream's Ashton Marra about *Janus v. AFSCME* and the impact it could have on protecting the First Amendment rights of Ohio's public employees.

In the interview, Alt said in regards to public employees being forced to pay agency fees, "You don't have a choice then on how it is that the unions use that money in terms of speech, what they advocate for. That's really the core of this case."

Read and listen to the radio piece at: <http://bit.ly/2EMIE8e>.

Watch the television piece at: <http://bit.ly/2CG11XH> (Segment runs from :56-6:27).

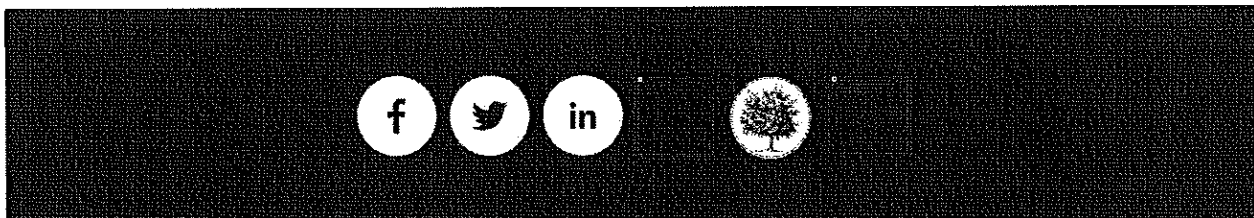


# # #

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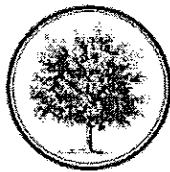
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(614) 224-3255 or [Lisa@BuckeyeInstitute.org](mailto:Lisa@BuckeyeInstitute.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
February 24, 2018

### **The Buckeye Institute's Robert Alt: Unions Should Rally Behind the First Amendment Rights of All Public Employees**

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**Columbus, OH** -- Robert Alt, president and chief executive officer of **The Buckeye Institute**, issued the following statement regarding the Working People's Day of Action rally in Columbus, Ohio.

= A

"Today we witnessed the First Amendment in action. Individuals who support unions joined together at a rally to freely express their opinions. But what if instead of rallying and voicing their own opinions, they were forced to pay for the speech of those who oppose unions or else they would be fired? That would be unfair, not to mention violate the First

Amendment. Mark Janus and public employees in many states including Ohio face exactly that kind of predicament.

"On Monday, we will once again watch the robust protections of our constitutional system in action as Mr. Janus' case is heard before the Supreme Court of the United States. If Mr. Janus prevails, public employees will no longer be forced to pay for political speech with which they disagree, thus ending the violation of their First Amendment rights.

"While some claim *Janus v. AFSCME* is an attempt to weaken unions, The Buckeye Institute filed an amicus brief demonstrating that unions can still **thrive without compulsory dues**. What will change if Mr. Janus prevails is that our hard-working public servants, even those who disagree with the unions, will have their First Amendment rights protected and respected. And that is something all of us should rally behind."

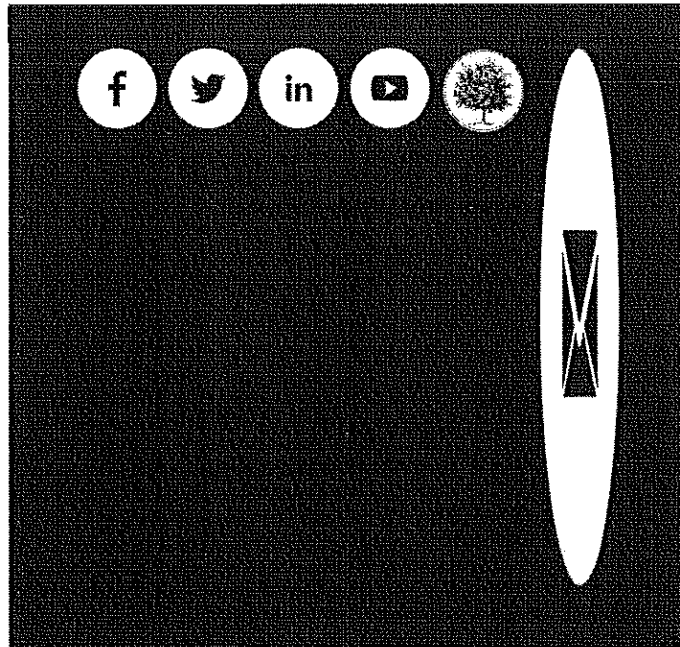
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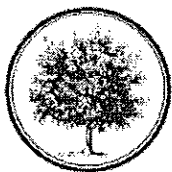
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In a **piece for National Review**, Buckeye's Robert Alt looks at the funding of *Janus v. AFSCME*, saying, "What is surprising is the fact that Mark Janus is personally funding a cadre of high-priced lawyers with one goal: making sure that Mark *loses* his case."

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# NATIONAL REVIEW

## The Money Behind *Janus*: It's Déjà vu All Over Again

National Review

By Robert Alt

February 26, 2018

This morning, the Supreme Court will hear oral arguments in *Janus v. American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, Council 31*. The case asks a similar question to one raised just two years ago in *Friedrichs v. California Teachers Association* - namely whether forcing a public employee to choose between subsidizing a union's political speech or being subject to termination for failure to do so violates the First Amendment.

Coming so soon after *Friedrichs* - a case in which the Court deadlocked 4-4 after the tragic and untimely death of Justice Scalia - *Janus* has a déjà vu quality to it. The sense that we have seen all of this before is nowhere more palpable than in the public arguments marshaled by some of the more liberal elements of the media against Mark Janus's case.

Bereft of sufficient legal arguments to justify the First Amendment violations perpetuated against public servants, left-wing publications have resorted to attacking the messenger. Mark Janus, a child-support specialist for the state of Illinois, is accused of being an agent of big corporations and billionaires. The proof? The public-interest law firms that represent Mr. Janus - namely Liberty Justice Center and the National Right to Work Legal Foundation - are accused of taking donations from charitable foundations that support free-market policy.

**Just as in *Friedrichs***, it is perfectly unsurprising that foundations and individuals voluntarily would give to non-profit, public-interest law firms that provide free representation to their clients. Indeed, public-interest firms on both the left and the right regularly rely on charitable donations to carry out their work.

What is surprising is the fact that Mark Janus is personally funding a cadre of high-priced lawyers with one goal: making sure that Mark *loses* his case. Why would he pay for the lawyers arguing against him? Because he has no choice. Mark is required to pay agency fees to the union, which are used for chargeable expenses like litigation, or he can be fired. And, of course, he is required to pay for political collective bargaining speech, or he can be fired.

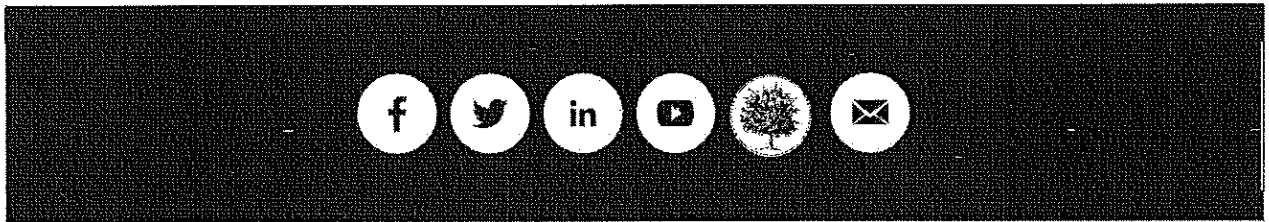
This is the real story of the money behind the *Janus* case-a story of forced contributions for political speech. But the story could have a happy ending. The Supreme Court will hear arguments today in a case that could vindicate the First Amendment rights of millions of Americans like Mark Janus. For Rebecca Friedrichs, for Mark Janus, and for all the workers who are being denied a voice and a choice, let's hope that the second time is the charm.

*Robert Alt is the president and chief executive officer of The Buckeye Institute.*

###

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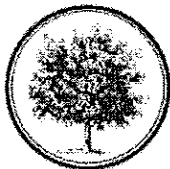
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# NATIONAL REVIEW